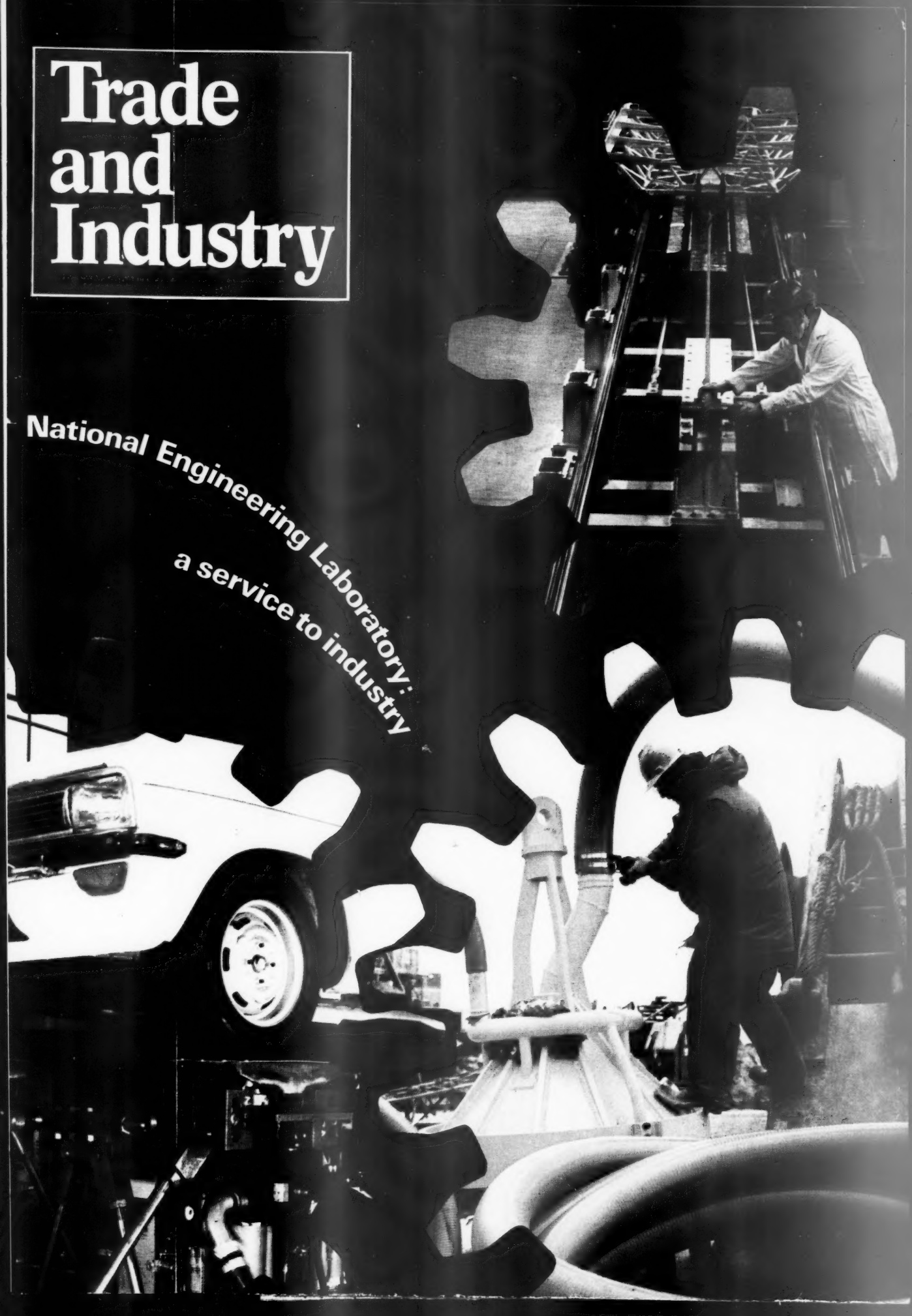
Trade and Industry



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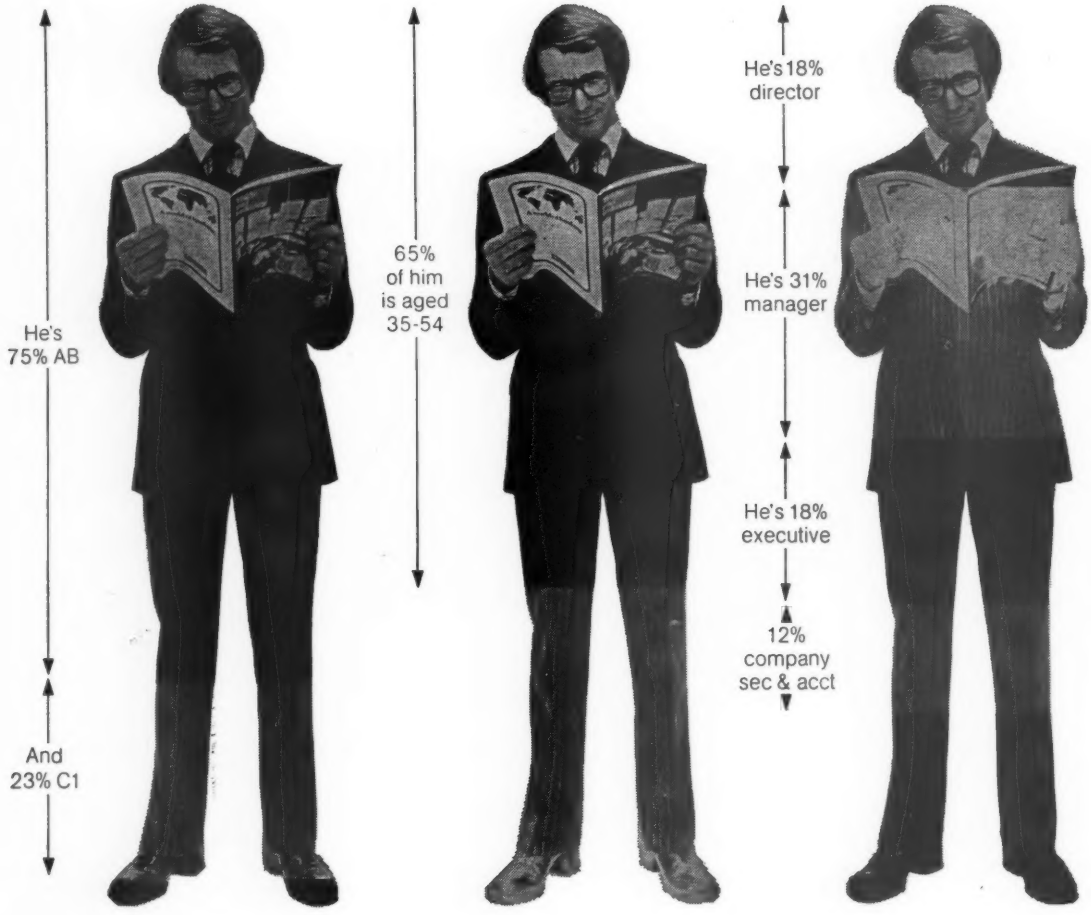

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Trade and Industry

19 September 1975

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

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Trade and Industry

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Home News

Industry Act – third annual report

The third annual report of the Industry Act 1972 was published yesterday (18 September) by the Department of Industry.

The report shows that the level of Industry Act assistance for modernisation or expansion granted in 1974/75 alone is significantly above the total amount given in the previous two years.

Regional incentives accounted for the majority of the assistance. Almost £213 million was paid out in regional development grants and £72 million was offered in general regional selective financial assistance. The overall value of capital expenditure associated with the assistance was over £1,700 million and some 58,000 new jobs were to be created in the Assisted Areas as a result.

The report covers the year to 31 March 1975. Since then over £30 million has been offered as general regional selective financial assistance in connection with projects in the Assisted Areas valued at £335 million, involving the creation of 27,000 new jobs.

In his April Budget, the Chancellor announced new proposals to encourage industrial modernisation and rationalisation throughout the country. Some £100 million of Section 8 assistance is being made available to support major investment projects which would have a significant impact on the balance of payments and to set up specific schemes aimed at selected industries. Schemes for the ferrous foundry and machine tool industries have recently been announced, and others are being urgently considered.

A further advance factory programme was announced in May for Wales and in June for England and Scotland, comprising 30 factories totalling 550,000 sq. ft. (49,500m²). When completed these factories will provide 2,000 jobs.

The report is the last to be presented solely by the Secretary of State for Industry. This follows the transfer on 1 July 1975 of responsibility for regional selective assistance under the Industry Act and for the provision and maintenance of Government factories and estates under the Local Employment Act in Scotland and Wales to the Secretaries of State for Scotland and Wales respectively. Future reports will be presented jointly by the Secretaries of State for Industry, Scotland and Wales.

Financial position of British airlines

Britain's airlines are estimated to have earned in 1974 a total of £859.9 million and employed 67,000 people (including 9,000 abroad). This compares with a revenue of £763.7 million in 1973 on which the airlines earned a profit of £41.6 million.

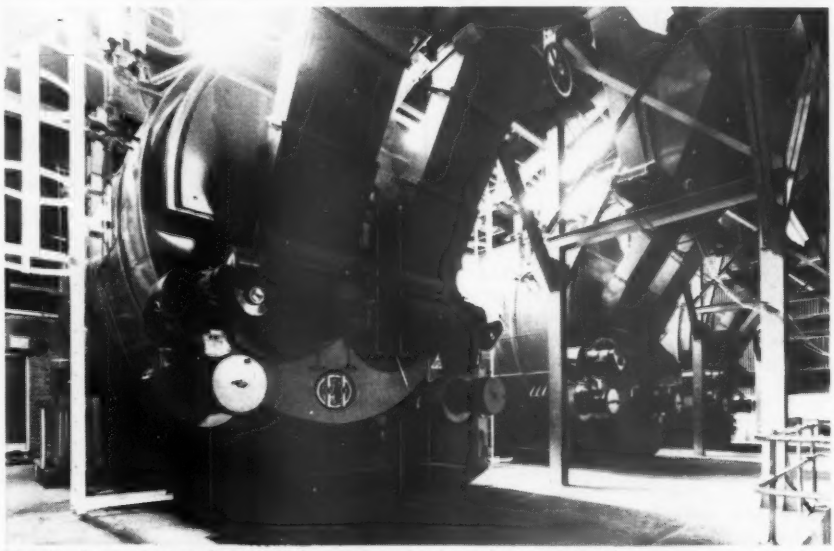
These figures are given in *Financial Results of United Kingdom Airlines 1968-74**, the first of a series of reports on the financial results of UK airlines which will be published annually by the Civil Aviation Authority.

The report shows that UK airline operating costs in 1974 are estimated at current prices to have risen by 97.2 per cent over the five years since 1970, while operating revenues increased by 93.5 per cent.

The report publishes detailed airline profit and loss accounts for 1973, some of them for the first time. In the private sector the most profitable airline was Britannia Airways with an operating profit of £2.58 million, and the least profitable British Caledonian with an operating loss of £2.33 million. The most profitable public sector airline was British Airways Overseas Division with an operating profit of £36.4 million, and the least profitable Scottish Airways with an operating loss of £709,000.

Total assets employed by all British airlines in 1973 were valued at £618.3 million – of which £527.6 million were employed in the public sector and £90.7 million in the private sector.

* *Financial Results of United Kingdom Airlines 1968–74*, published by the Civil Aviation Authority, price £4.25. Copies from CAA, PO Box 41, Cheltenham, Glos., or to personal callers from the CAA Central Library, Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN.



There's plenty of steam in the old 'un – a new coal-burning multi-boiler steam-generating plant has been brought into use at British Rail's Shildon Works, the first railway workshop in the world in which can still be seen the route of the old Stockton and Darlington line. The plant was designed and commissioned by the Energy Equipment Co. Ltd., of Leighton Buzzard, which, in addition to supplying the three boilers – each with an evaporative capacity of 17,000 lb/hour at an operating pressure of 150 lb/in.² – also supplied all the ancillaries. White Young and Partners, Leeds, acted as civil engineering consultants, while the building and civil engineering work was carried out by G. Stephenson, of Bishop Auckland.

Concorde 204's 'third of a million miles'

Concorde 204 completed two months of intensive endurance flying to many parts of the world when it returned to Heathrow on Saturday evening (13 September) after a three and a half hour flight over the North Atlantic. Lord Beswick, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, who has special responsibility for aerospace, sent the following message to the guests and crew to mark the occasion:

'The completion of the flight OF311 marks the end of the British Concorde 204's contribution to the endurance flying programme. Since 7 July this one aircraft has made 128 flights in a total of 380 hours and has covered nearly a third of a million miles.

'The flights have been made over the Atlantic, the Middle East, India, the Far East and Australia, and have demonstrated Concorde's safety and reliability in a variety of climatic conditions. This work is vital to the certification of the aircraft, and to its entry into airline service at the beginning of 1976. In addition several thousand passengers have been carried. Their comments on their unique experience all show appreciation of the commercial attraction of this aircraft.

'In carrying out the programme Concorde

204 has broken a number of records. It made the fastest civil aircraft flight between Singapore and Melbourne, almost halving the best subsonic flight time between those two cities. It also made the fastest crossing by a civil aircraft over the Atlantic from London to Gander, and made aviation history by carrying out, on several occasions, two round trips between London and Gander in a single day.

'This is a splendid achievement, which did not come about without difficulty, discomfort and hard work. Few of those who contributed to the success of the programme are known or recognised by the public. They work at all levels in the British Aircraft Corporation, Rolls Royce and British Airways; in the British Airports Authority and in many airports throughout the world. They include cabin crews of Singapore International Airlines, Gulfair and Air India; civil servants here and in other posts abroad and their counterparts in a dozen other countries, and, perhaps most important of all, the staff of the Civil Aviation Authority. I hope they feel a share in the excitement and success of the programme; as Minister for the Aerospace Industry, I thank them all for their effort.'

New jobs for Brynmawr

Alec Jones, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Wales, has announced that Waterfit Ltd., of Salisbury, Wiltshire, is building a new factory on the Blaenant Industrial Estate, Brynmawr.

Waterfit Ltd., which is associated with the Wilson Group of companies, is already operating from temporary premises at Ebbw Vale.

The company has purchased a one-acre site from the Blaenau Gwent District Council and taken an option on a further adjoining acre on the Blaenant Estate. The first stage of the project, which has now started, is the erection of premises of 5,000 sq. ft. It is planned to employ 20 people, mainly men, by 1976 and it is hoped that a total of some 40 jobs will be created by 1977/78.

Selective Financial Assistance has been made available to the company under the terms of the Industry Act 1972.

Major engineering project starts at Team Valley

The English Industrial Estates Corporation has announced that work started on 15 September on an engineering project costing almost £¼ million – the reconstruction of a section of Kingsway – on the Team Valley Industrial Estate, Gateshead. This is the first stage in a major scheme for the reconstruction of the entire dual carriageway which was first constructed in 1936.

W. A. Fairhurst and Partners (Northern), of Newcastle, are the consulting engineers and the contract for reconstructing the road has been awarded to Tarmac Construction Ltd., also of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Work should be completed by April 1976.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
15 August 1975		
1,262,785	Orsymonde	Improvements in or relating to phloroglucinol derivatives
1,268,815	Orsymonde	Improvements in or relating to phloroglucinol derivatives
1,271,519	Orsymonde	Improvements in or relating to derivatives of phloroglucinol
1,272,562	Orsymonde	Pharmaceutical compositions comprising phloroglucinol ethers
1,276,097	Orsymonde	Improvements in or relating to phloroglucinol derivatives
21 August 1975		
1,131,265	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to acoustic wave devices
1,153,927	Wilhelm Horrmann	Medicinal composition suitable for treating diseases of the retina
1,186,763	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in self-contained hydraulic power transmission units
1,203,284	William McKinnon and Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to hulling machines
1,225,743	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Mounting means for semi-conductor devices
1,260,657	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to mountings for rectifier devices
1,380,218	Kugelfisher Georg Schafter and Co.	Braiding machine
26 August 1975		
1,024,451	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Mounting means for electrical devices
1,051,681	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Electrical circuit components
1,102,836	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Multi-junction semi-conductor elements
1,139,154	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Semi-conductor devices and the manufacture thereof
1,182,820	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Manufacture of semi-conductor elements
28 August 1975		
1,196,200	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Photographic vesicular images and a process for their production
1,199,334	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Self processing camera
1,248,071	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Process and photographic material for the photographic production of equidensities
1,201,732	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Manufacture of semi-conductor elements
1,342,493	Compucorp, formerly known as Computer Design Corporation	Calculator apparatus
1 September 1975		
983,639	Brown Boveri and Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to inverters
1,151,457	Brown Boveri and Co. Ltd.	Safety device for inverters supplying asynchronous motors
1,253,421	Brown Boveri and Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to rectifying circuits employing semi -conductor components
1,041,299	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	High pressure apparatus
1,256,640	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Transmission line
1,323,195	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to computers
1,339,461	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Cables
1,357,030	Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd.	Error correcting PCM encoder
1,253,191	Agence Nationale de Valorisation de la Recherche (ANVAR)	Oxygen electrode for fuel cells
1,302,150	Hitachi Ltd.	Shadow mask assembly for use in colour television picture tubes
1,359,490	Hitachi Ltd.	A method of manufacturing a fluorescent screen of a colour television picture tube
1,312,022	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Process for making photochemically curable polyester resins
1,312,216	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Process for making improved polyester resins
1,340,419	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Poromeric materials
1,382,689	N. C. Ashton Ltd.	An improved aluminium bronze
1,383,613	N. C. Ashton Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to securing members
4 September 1975		
1,044,469	Intermetall Gesellschaft fur Metallurgie und Elektronik mbH	Power transistor
1,124,694	International Standard Electric Corporation	Digital-to-analogue now-linear decoder
1,201,967	International Standard Electric Corporation	Addition circuit of speech codes issued from coding with a non-linear companding law
1,248,132	International Standard Electric Corporation	Automatic telecommunication exchange
1,318,762	International Standard Electric Corporation	Implicit beam angle control for a frequency scanning radar system
1,327,576	International Standard Electric Corporation	Method for interconnecting the selection stages in a switching network
1,353,368	International Standard Electric Corporation	Toll restrictor circuit
1,361,790	International Standard Electric Corporation	Electric signal storage device
1,194,250	Carrier Corporation	Compressor lubrication arrangement
1,194,343	Coach Fittings Development Ltd.	Latch or fastening mechanisms
1,267,062	Geoffrey William Thomas	Underframes for work benches
1,279,842	A/S Dumex (Dumex Ltd.)	Tetrahydrobenzodiazepine derivatives preparation
1,309,357	Societa Italiana Resine SIR SpA	Apparatus for winding continuous thread on to a reel
1,332,692	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	A process for the production of photographic images
1,354,158	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	A process for the production of photographic images
1,355,670	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	A process for the production of photographic images
1,379,615	Agfa-Gevaert Aktiengesellschaft	Photographic hardening bleach-fixing bath.

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Grimsby joins the price fight

Prices in local shopping areas in Grimsby came under the scrutiny of the Grimsby Consumer Group on 12 September. This check, the fourth to be made in Great Britain, carries on the series that the National Federation of Consumer Groups are making at the request of Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, who believes that improved price information for shoppers is a valuable help against inflation.

The surveys cover a compact area, and look at the prices of a range of basic food items and other essential goods at a number of supermarkets, butchers and greengrocers, which are named for comparison. In Grimsby nine supermarkets, two butchers and two greengrocers were visited by members of the Grimsby Consumer Group under the supervision of Peter Watson.

Detailed results of the Grimsby survey are available from Peter Watson, The Thujas, 22 Abbey Drive West, Grimsby DN 32 OHH (tel. 0472 51281 (home), 0472 89271 (office)) or Miss Barbara Haig (tel. 0472 51202).

The first survey was carried out in the Shawlands area of Glasgow by Glasgow South Consumer Group on 3 May, the second at Southend by the Southend and District Consumer Group on 28 May, the third at Cleveland (Redcar) on 2 July.

Further surveys will follow. The NFCG members who carry them out are unpaid volunteers. They are being advised by DPCP but the actual checking is done by members of local consumer groups. Each group will make the full results available in the area concerned and a follow-up survey will in each case be made a few weeks later to determine what changes may have taken place.

New price limits for butter and cheese

It was reported briefly in last week's *Trade and Industry* that the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had laid orders before Parliament to increase with effect from 16 September the maximum retail prices of butter by 2p per half pound and of cheese by 3p per pound.

The new Orders are: Butter Prices (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1975 (SI 1975/1464) and Cheese Prices (No. 2) (Amendment) Order 1975 (SI 1975/1463).

The new maximum prices are:

a For salted butter sold in certain rectangular packs weighing from 8 oz. to 1 lb.:

Category of butter	Pence per half lb.
Butter produced in the UK (other than blended)	21
Other EEC butter (other than blended)	21
New Zealand butter (other than blended)	19
Blended butter of any variety and of any origin	20
Any other variety of butter (other than blended)	21

b For cheese sold from bulk or pre-packed in the normal paper or polythene wrappers in random quantities:

Category of cheese	Pence per lb.	
	Farmhouse or matured	Other
Cheddar		
UK (including Dunlop) and other EEC	66	56
New Zealand		56
Cheshire – UK	64	54
Territorials		
UK Caerphilly, Derby, Double Gloucester, Lancashire, Leicester, Wensleydale and White Stilton		56
Edam and Gouda		56

The Order for butter also excludes from maximum price control, although not from margin control, certain speciality packs which are giving rise to unexpected difficulties because of high production costs.

The new price limits are mainly the result of the higher prices which manufacturers will be paying for milk following the implementation of the second stage of the farm price review carried out by the EEC Council of Ministers in mid-February; they result also in part from the devaluation of the Green Pound in August.

The increase in cheese prices takes account of the Price Commission's recent determinations on the pre-notifications of proposed price increases submitted by the major cheese manufacturers in the UK.

Prices in the shops will generally remain below the new maximum levels. The extent to which they may rise continues to be governed by the control exercised over distributors' profit margins.

Profit margins of drink and tobacco distributors – Price Commission set up inquiry

The Price Commission have engaged Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Company to conduct a detailed examination of the effect of the Price Code provisions relating to indirect taxes other than VAT on gross percentage margins and net profit margins of distributors of alcoholic drink and tobacco. This examination will be on a sample basis, and the consultants will shortly be approaching a number of wholesalers and retailers of alcoholic drink and tobacco for the purpose.

The Commission were instructed to carry out this inquiry by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection on 5 August 1975. When the consultants have reported on the effect on distributors' margins of these provisions of the Price Code, the Price Commission will consider and report to the Secretary of State whether, in the light of the circumstances of the trades, any changes in these provisions should be recommended.

Consumer protection vital in the fight against inflation – Robert Maclennan

Advice and help for consumers in fighting inflation will result from new Government grants now available to local authorities, Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, told the Scottish Consumer Council, before their inaugural meeting in Glasgow on 15 September.

Stressing the particular importance of consumer protection during difficult times, he said: 'The Scottish Consumer Council is being established at a time when the consumer is under very great pressure. For some months ahead shoppers will find the going very rough indeed. It would be quite intolerable if, on the top of the burden of rising prices, any trading practices were followed which were not first and last in the interest of the consumer. In these critical months when the whole country is committed to the fight against inflation the business of consumer protection has an extra urgency.

'It is essential that the consumer should have recourse to easily available and efficient advice; advice not solely on redress but also pre-shopping advice which can do so much to ensure the consumer gets value for money.

'The Government recognise this need and as part of the policy of the attack on inflation is making special grants available to local authorities. There are two specific grants; first there is a grant to encourage local authorities to undertake price information exercises which would give consumers up-to-date information on comparative costs within particular shopping centres.

'Secondly a grant which amounts to £1.4 million up to the end of March 1977 is being made to encourage local authorities to set up new consumer advice centres – or similar facilities suitable to their area.

'I hope that Scottish authorities will apply quickly for the grants under this scheme for to my knowledge there are at present only three consumer advice centres in operation in Scotland out of a total of nearly 70 throughout the UK. I am sure the Scottish Consumer Council will wish to give its support to the extension of these facilities for consumer advice.

'No doubt the Scottish Consumer Council will also be considering the differences in consumer law between Scotland and England and the implications of these differences to the consumer. There is a great need for an authoritative consumer view on these differences and a judgement as to whether they are disadvantageous to the Scottish consumer.'

Scottish Consumer Council members named

Membership of the Scottish Consumer Council has been announced by Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. The Council will be chaired by Mrs. Joan Macintosh, organiser of the Glasgow Citizens' Advice Bureau. The following have agreed to be members: Miss Margaret Blackwood, Mr. Anthony Burton, Miss Jean Cook, Mr. Donald Dewar, Mr. Robert Donald, Mrs. Gladys Findlay, Mrs. Alice Henderson, Mrs. Catherine Mackay, Mrs. Elizabeth Skivington, Mrs. Jean Stewart and Mrs. Agnes Whamond.

The temporary address of the Scottish Consumer Council is c/o Citizens' Advice Bureau, 212 Bath Street, Glasgow G2 4HW (tel. 041-332 8486). From 30 September the Council's address will be 4 Somerset Place, Glasgow G3 7JT.

Gas consumers' councils appointments

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Councillor E. A. Armitage as a member of the North Eastern Gas Consumers' Council until 28 February 1977.

Councillor J. Needham has been appointed as a member of the East Midlands Gas Consumers' Council until 30 November 1977.

BSI to hold metrication conference

'Metrication Now' is the aim of the British Standards Institution's Standards Associates Section annual conference at Lancaster University this year from 2-3 October. The aim of the conference is to highlight the problems brought about by the lack of decisive metrication programmes in many industries, and to propose ways and means of simplifying the inevitable changeover.

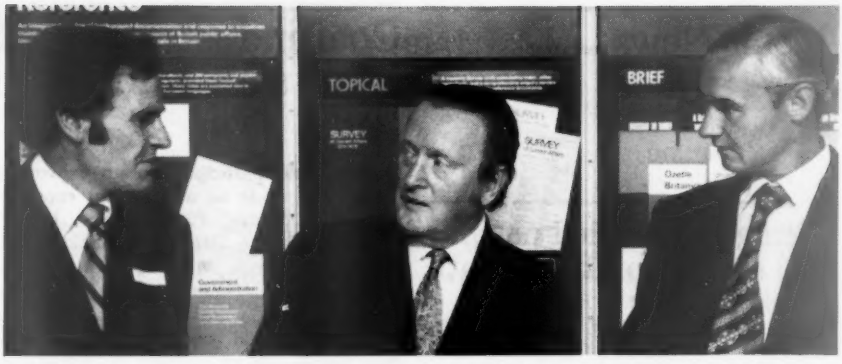
Speakers will present the policies of the Government, the Metrication Board and the Confederation of British Industry. Dr. E. N. Eden, head of the Standards Weights and Measures Division of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, will speak for the Government and Dr. M. E. O'Hagan, American National Metric Council, will discuss US metric progress.

There will be opportunities for delegates to join in debate on the second day in an Open Forum, chaired by BSI's Director General, Mr. G. B. R. Feilden, when speakers representing major suppliers such as BSC and GKN Fasteners Ltd., discuss future supply policies with representatives of major users like the Central Electricity Generating Board.

The conference is organised by the Standards Associates Section of BSI and fees are £43.20 residential, £37.80 non residential (including VAT). For Standards Associates members the fees are £41.04 and £35.64 respectively (including VAT). Further details may be obtained from the Secretary, BSI Standards Associates Section, 2 Park Street, London W1 (tel. 01-629 9000, exts. 344/368).

Electricity Consultative Council appointments

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr. A. J. Hemming and Councillor Mrs. F. Nash as members of the Midlands Electricity Consultative Council until 30 April 1978.



Fifteen members of the Business Equipment Trade Association (BETA) visited the London headquarters of the Central Office of Information recently to learn at first hand of the export promotion activities of COI's media divisions and its nine regional offices. Leading the group was Mr. A. D. Smith, secretary of the association (left), which has an export trade of over £300 million a year. In the centre is Mr. K. W. Sutton, COI Assistant Controller (Overseas), and on the right Mr. R. R. Blagg of Computer Technology Ltd., Hemel Hempstead. Each year about 16,000 industrial news stories, 2,500 feature articles, half a million photographs and 200,000 photoposters are supplied by the COI to over 100 countries. About 270 joint ventures and 100 trade missions are supported in all publicity media.

Chairman of the Transport Users' Consultative Committee for London

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, has appointed Mr. G. H. Harris as Chairman of the Transport Users' Consultative Committee for London. Mr. Harris has been Chairman of the Consultative Committee since 1972 and a member since 1962.

Government services for offshore industry – new booklet

A new booklet setting out the contribution made by Government Departments and agencies to the development of Britain's resources on the United Kingdom Continental Shelf has been published.

Entitled *Serving the Offshore Industry*, the booklet has been available on the Government stand at the Offshore Europe '75 exhibition in Aberdeen (16-19 September).

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Industrial and commercial property

Siting of liquefied natural gas storage units in South Wales

Following an approach from Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, the British Gas Corporation is prepared to initiate a planning application for the location of liquefied natural gas storage units in South Wales at Dynevor Arms as an alternative to a site originally chosen at Hirwaun.

A number of detailed studies at the Dynevor Arms site will be necessary before any planning application can be made.

Planning permission to erect the units at Hirwaun was given after a public inquiry lasting 12 days, at which objections on safety and environmental grounds were thoroughly explored. Opposition from some local people to the siting of the units near the village has prevented British Gas from continuing work at Hirwaun for over two years.

The present constraints on the gas transmission system in South Wales, in the view of British Gas, are such that it can undertake no further substantial contracts for new industrial supplies until the system can be reinforced.

Seeking a solution, the Heads of the Valleys Standing Conference – concerned that continued delay in reinforcing the system could threaten employment and industrial development in South Wales – gave further consideration to possible alternative sites in the area and concluded publicly, after consultation with other bodies, that the most favourable is at Dynevor Arms.

The Standing Conference – made up of representatives of local authorities meeting to discuss matters of mutual interest in South Wales – then asked to see the Secretary of State for Energy to discuss the situation. After receiving the Standing Conference delegation, Mr. Benn undertook to examine the situation with Sir Arthur Hetherington, Chairman, British Gas.

Gas gathering pipeline study commissioned

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has commissioned Williams-Merz, consulting engineers, of Newcastle upon Tyne, to study the feasibility of a gas gathering system for bringing gas ashore from oilfields in the northern North Sea where the amount produced with oil at each location may be insufficient to justify a separate pipeline.

Such a shared gathering system, if proved technically and economically feasible, would allow the conservation of these gas resources; otherwise they might have to be flared.

Coal industry should gear up for export trade says Minister

Britain could participate in an expanding world coal trade as a successful exporter, said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, in London last week. Mr. Eadie was opening the 'Financial Times' World Coal Conference.

Although world trade in coal had grown from around 100 million tons in 1960 to over 170 million tons a year, he said, the UK share in that had had to be small – for various reasons.

Mr. Eadie continued: 'Ten years ago we got up to nearly 6 million tons but recently our exports have varied up and down around the 2 million-ton level. In recent months the world coal trade has been affected by the general recession. But in the longer run there is little doubt that it will continue its expansion as the world's economy gets into gear again.

'I remain an optimist and it is my belief that the sort of forecasts which were being floated last year of world coal trade doubling or better over the next 10 years will soon begin once more to seem eminently achievable.

'The scope for Britian to participate in that expansion is obvious. There is no question but that it is within the capacity of our coal industry to take advantage of that scope if the will and the effort is there and can be applied. In this context it is encouraging that the present relatively depressed demand for energy is giving us the opportunity to rebuild our stock levels from the low levels reached last year.

'The flexibility provided by a reasonable level of stocks is an essential basis for an export programme. And exports need not be confined to coal. British coal technology and equipment is second to none.'

Stressing the importance of coal's contribution to world energy supplies, Mr. Eadie said: 'In 1974, 29 per cent of the world's energy supplies came from coal. For the UK, the figure was 35 per cent, reflecting the strength of our own reserves.

'In Britain, we aim to halt the decline of our coal industry. NCB's Plan for Coal has just this in mind and their 10-year investment programme is already well under way with the Government's blessing and support.

'The more than four-fold increase of oil prices has led us all to look for ways of minimising our dependence on imported oil. But I think it goes further than that. Coal promises to be available in large quantities long after oil has become a scarce commodity.

'In the UK, our proved reserves of coal amount to 100,000 million tons and we estimate our total resources to be more than half as much again. An estimate of 4,000 million tons of economically-workable reserves accessible to existing collieries was made by the NCB prior to the upsurge of oil prices in the autumn of 1973. But the oil price rise transformed the situation and with the NCB's greatly expanded exploration programme additions are being made to these estimates at four times the rate of extraction.

'The fact is that the relativity between the price at which oil and coal can be brought to the market dictates the economic workability of reserves. But existing techniques for deep mining do place limitations on the proportion of reserves which we can exploit, and this is a problem not confined to the United Kingdom.

'In the present circumstances, it is vital for every effort to be made to increase the efficiency with which coal can be produced, and to extend the proportion of reserves that can be considered economically workable. There is still tremendous scope for the automation of established mining techniques, and to reduce the hazards under which the miner works while making him more productive.

'Above all, there is the need to create confidence in the mining industry to stimulate the massive investment in new mines and infrastructure necessary, if coal is to become a major element in world trade. We, in the United Kingdom, have already started down this road with the tripartite Coal Industry Examination carried out last year.'

Mr. Eadie said that new uses for coal would be developed for the future and he mentioned the International Energy Agency research programme on fluidised bed combustion. 'Pride of place must go to the plans for a pressurised fluidised bed combustion facility to be funded jointly by the IEA member countries interested, and to be built on a colliery site in the Yorkshire coalfield. The facility will enable the technique of fluidised bed combustion to be studied under practical power generation conditions and speed the development and exploitation of what is a major breakthrough in combustion technology.'

Energy Minister sees French tidal power scheme

Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, last week visited the tidal power scheme on the River Rance near St. Malo, France. As a guest of the French electricity authority, Electricité de France, Mr. Eadie was shown over the station and heard details of its construction and its operating performance.

On his return to the UK, Mr. Eadie commented: 'The tidal barrage project at St. Malo is a remarkable technological achievement and I was very impressed by it. Tidal power is one of a number of alternative sources of energy which the Government has been considering, although the tidal barrage schemes suggested for the Severn Estuary have not so far been shown to be economically viable.

'I am sure, however, that the arguments will continue and my visit gives me some first-hand experience to bring to future discussions.'

Price Commission interventions during August

During August the Price Commission rejected 13 notifications of price increases from manufacturing and service companies in Categories I and II. In another 36 cases the companies concerned withdrew their notifications of intended increases and in 85 cases the extent of the increase was reduced by the Commission. See lists below.

Since the beginning of Stage 4 on 20 December 1974, the Commission has rejected a total of 103 notifications and modified 629; 204 notifications were withdrawn.

During August, following discussions with the Price Commission, 11 distributors in Category II agreed to make price reductions amounting to £680,000 in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits as revealed in their periodic returns.

Following inspection of records kept by enterprises in Category III, the Commission's Regional Offices secured the agreement of 59 distributors, 24 manufacturers, one service enterprise, one professional enterprise and one construction enterprise to make price reductions amounting to £1.92 million in order to eliminate excess gross or net profits. In addition, the Regional Offices secured a total of 77 individual voluntary price reductions following investigation of complaints about price increases.

Note

The Price Commission may intervene to reject or modify notifications submitted by Category I and II enterprises at any time during or after the 28-day period which must elapse before the increase can be implemented.

Announcements about price increases where the Price Commission has not intervened are the responsibility of the company imposing the increase.

Rejections

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Advance Contract Laundries Ltd.	Contract laundering	1.52
RHM General Products Ltd.	Gravy making products	10.00
Category II		
The De La Rue Co. (Currency Division) (four notifications)	Currency notes	31.08
	Currency notes	13.10
	Travellers cheques	2.70
	Travellers cheques	30.99
Desmond and Sons Ltd.	Men's and boys' trousers	5.92
	Light clothing	5.84
John Morrell and Co. Ltd.	Canned broad beans	27.23
	Canned potatoes	15.73
Royal Albert Laundry Ltd.	Laundering	7.37
Sealed Motor Construction Co. Ltd.	Domestic circulators and industrial pumps	11.20
Spring Food Products Ltd.	Canned broad beans	30.40
	Canned garden peas	10.53
Ebonite Containers Ltd.	Hard rubber containers, etc.	9.20
The Ever Ready Co. Ltd.	Dry (primary) batteries and flashlight cases	7.90
Mandaw Products Ltd.		
Mono Containers Ltd.	Paper and plastic containers	10.00
W. J. Oldacre Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	4.17
Phonogram Ltd.	Gramophone records and tape products	2 27
Preston Farmers Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	5.97
Redland Ltd.	Bricks	8.46
Silverthorne Housewares Ltd.	Bathroom fitments	19.87
Sketchley Ltd.	All dry cleaning and tailor repair services	3.19
St. Olaf Bonding Co. Ltd.	Bottling and ancillary operations	30.00
Tay Textiles Ltd.	Jute yarn	20.20
Teddington Auto Controls Ltd.	Automatic devices	Not specified
Tivoli Kay Adhesives Ltd.	Adhesives	9.40
The Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries Ltd.	Wines and spirits, beer (wholesale) and managed house tariffs	Not specified

Withdrawals

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
British Sugar Corporation Ltd.	Sugar	4.67
EMI Meterflow Ltd.	Flowmeters and ancillary equipment	Not specified
Enots Ltd.	Pneumatic and motor fittings and accessories	20.10
ICI Ltd.	Decorative paints	3.70
Milk Marketing Board	Milk for manufacture	15.67 to 17.06
Murex Positioning Equipment Ltd.	Welding heads, positioners, roller beds, ramboons, power sources, accessories	8.50
Satchwell Control Systems Ltd.	Electrical and electronic contols, motors and valves for heating, ventilating and air conditioning	4.40
Scottish Farmers Dairy Co. Ltd. and Sloane Dairies Ltd.	Fresh cream	14.29
Securicor Subsidiary Holdings Ltd.	Industrial security activities	11.44
SE Laboratories Ltd.	Recorders, conditioning transducers, medical analogue tapes	Not specified
Severn-Trent Water Authority	Water supply connection charges	Not specified
T. Wall and Sons (Ice Cream) Ltd.	Ice cream	4.28
Youngs Seafoods Ltd.	Breaded fish	1.58
Category II		
Albion Sugar Co. Ltd.	Glucose and invert sugar	13.33
Arenson International AL Ltd.	Office furniture	7.31
Balfour Darwins Ltd.	Alloy steel magnets	11.64
	Ceramic magnets	20.81
The Boots Co. Ltd.	Contract lozenges VQTZ	64.53
British Relay Wireless and Television Ltd.	Television rental, relay cable television services	7.39
Calor Gas Ltd.	Bulk and cylinder gas: dealer and own shops	3.08
Calor Kosangas Ltd.	Dealer and retail cylinder gas	7.06
City Bus Ltd. (Northern Ireland Co).	Services and fares	20.00

Modifications

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
Category I			
Advance Towelmaster (Western) Ltd.	Towelmaster, cabinets etc. linen hire, garment hire	14.73	0.46
AEI Ltd.	Electric cable	12.02	0.69
Benham and Sons Ltd.	Industrial catering equipment	25.00	7.41
Birnam Products Ltd.	Springs and spring interiors	3.65	0.10
BOC International	Gas welding equipment, light industrial gas equipment, nozzles rods and fluxes	5.00	0.04
BOCM Silcock Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	1.15	0.11
Callard and Bowser Nuttall Ltd.	Chocolate and sugar confectionery	4.46	0.15
The Cheltenham Newspaper Co. Ltd.	Advertising rates, photograph selling, block charges	13.08	3.29
J. F. Chester (Roughton) Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	6.28	0.26
Courtaulds Ltd.	Viscose textile yarns	21.90	5.28
Dunlop Footwear Ltd.	Industrial footwear	2.80	0.16
	Protective footwear	2.80	0.16
	Accessories	2.80	0.16
Dunlop Ltd.	Powered industrial trucks and tractors, mining machinery etc	2.80	0.16
Dunlop Semtex Ltd.	Adhesives	2.80	0.16
	Screeding compounds	1.20	0.16
	Foamflex	1.20	0.16
The Goodyear Tyre and Rubber Co. (GB) Ltd.	Tyres, tubes and remoulds replacement market	7.92	0.29
	Tyres, tubes and wheels OE market	7.17	0.30
ICI Ltd.	Dimethyl terephthalate	34.67	0.79
	'Sinitilon' and 'Novolux'	16.00	1.10
	Vinyl chloride monomer	11.79	3.39
Johnson Matthey Chemicals Ltd.	Platinum group metal salts	14.50	0.40
	Gold metal salts	20.00	0.70
	Silver metal salts	21.00	0.90

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
Marconi Instruments Ltd.	Electronic instruments	6.50	0.10
Nitrovit Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	2.61	0.02
Nobels Explosives Co. Ltd.	Cordtex	16.04	0.54
		+£1.17	+£0.06
	Safety fuse	29.82	0.15
Philips Domestic Appliances Ltd.	Automatic washing machines	4.05	0.38
	Tumble dryers	7.89	0.49
Philips Electrical Ltd.	Philishave products	4.89	0.14
	Television sets (mono and colour)	6.19	0.25
FA Power Ltd.	Bright steel products	0.14	0.04
RHM Agriculture Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	3.17	0.63
RHM Foods Ltd.	Gravy making products	5.35	0.20
C. and B. Smith Foundries Ltd.	Automotive grey iron castings	9.77	0.79
		+£1.52 per tonne	+£0.05 per tonne
James Stott and Co. (Engnrs) Ltd.	Heavy duty industrial catering equipment	15.21	1.77
Thomson Yellow Pages Ltd.	Advertisement rates	27.94	4.59
Wallpaper Manufacturers Ltd.	Paints	1.90	0.06
Waterlow (Dunstable) Ltd.	Black ink	17.84	2.69
Wiltshire Newspaper Divn. of Westminster Press	Advertisement rates	12.19	3.92

Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
Category II			
Armco Ltd.	Small diameter steel tubing	12.74	0.10
Atlas Express Ltd.	Parcel charges	5.00	2.50
Barkers and Lees Smith Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs sold at Norfolk branch	5.06	0.05
The Boots Co. Ltd., 'Own Goods Marketing'	Adrenaline cream, roundworm tablets, Nuderm clear cleaning gel	12.19 (average)	0.08 (average)
Bulpitt and Sons Ltd.	Domestic appliances, holloware teasets, rotating electrical machinery and government contracting	8.50	1.02
Burgess Power Tools Ltd.	Bandsaw Model BBS 20	21.04	2.07
Caribonum Ltd.	*HSP* Silk, nylon, film		
	Other ribbons Silk, nylon etc	18.94	0.92
Crosby and Co. Ltd.	Doors	7.84	0.40

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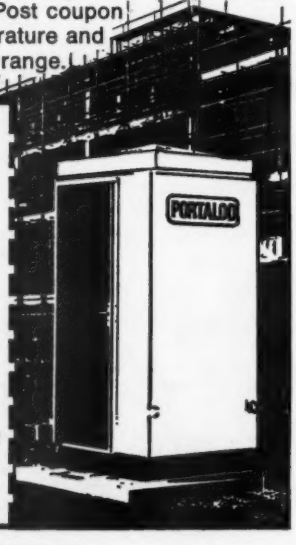


Company	Product	% increase sought	% reduction made (percentage points)
W. H. Dean and Son Ltd.	Gas heated domestic appliances	7.86	0.10
Express and Star Ltd.	Cover prices	1.77	1.09
Fothergill and Harvey Ltd.	Fabrics produced from glass fibre yarns	6.57	0.48
	Fabrics produced from nylon polyester and PVDC yarns	17.70	0.61
W. R. Grace Ltd.	Container sealing compounds		
	Group 01	9.70	1.10
	02	2.70	0.71
	Letter flex	18.34	0.15
Greengate Industrial Polymers Ltd.	Conveyor belting, hose, rubber extrusions, mouldings sheeting, seals and belts	2.03	0.02
P. C. Henderson Ltd.	One piece single garage doors	10.37	1.68
	Other garage doors	13.58	1.01
Heygate and Sons Ltd.	'All English' flour	6.99	0.15
Lockwoods Foods Ltd.	Canned fruit and vegetables	24.84	0.11
LR Industries Ltd.	Diaphragms	19.88	0.20
	Household rubber gloves	12.00	0.95
W. L. Miller and Sons Ltd./ Roberts and Birch Ltd.	Sausages, pies, cooked meats etc.	3.32	0.17
Nairn Floors Ltd.	Cresta flex	3.50	0.01
Normalair-Garrett (Holdings) Ltd.	Aircraft equipment	1.25	0.27
Geo. Outram and Co. Ltd.	Selling price and advertisement rates	16.53	1.34
Preston Farmers Ltd.	Animal feedingstuffs	5.74	0.88
Priestman Brothers Ltd.	Labour rates, van mileage rate	23.30	2.58
Ritemixer Ltd.	Spares for vehicle mounted concrete mixers/pumps	7.70	0.14
Robinsons of Chesterfield	Surgical dressings, filter medicines, feminine hygiene and baby products	11.70	2.00
Salter Industrial Measurement Ltd.	Commercial and industrial weighing machines	7.64	0.14
Scottish and Universal Newspapers Ltd.	Cover prices and advert rates	9.00	1.65
Sheaffer Pen Co.	Writing instruments	13.65	0.72
Shell Star Ltd.	Various fertilisers, ammonia, nitric acid	5.54	0.31
Shulton (GB) Ltd.	Toiletries	7.94	0.16
BSA Sintered Components Ltd.	Sintered components	10.94	0.56
Southern Television Ltd.	Advertising rates	7.66	2.72
Sperry New Holland Ltd.	Agricultural equipment (hay balers, mowers, forage equipment and parts)	26.90	4.49
Spring Food Products Ltd.	Canned strawberries	18.30	10.00
3M UK Ltd.	Adhesive, coating and sealer products	2.38	0.02
Trebor Sharps Ltd.	Confectionery	2.50	0.25
Ulsterbus Ltd.	Overall fares	20.00	2.50
Uniroyal Ltd. (Tyre Divn.)	Domestic replacement-original equipment	6.10	0.04
Weetabix Ltd.	Alpen	11.46	0.40
R. &. R. Whitehead and Bros. Ltd.	Pressed felt	9.61	0.14
F. Wrighton and Sons (Assoc. Cos.) Ltd.	Kitchen and bedroom furniture and fittings	7.00	0.05
York Trailer Co. Ltd., Trailer Divn.	Landing gear	16.00	0.18
	Trailers	2.85	0.03
York Trailer Co. Ltd. Tees Division	Vans	4.50	0.02
York Technical Services Ltd.	Axles for trailers	15.70	0.19
	Suspensions	22.08	0.03

In addition, marginal reductions (that is, less than 0.01 per cent) have been made to the following notifications:

Company	Product	% increase sought
Category I		
Express Dairy Foods Ltd.	Hard cheese	2.74
Russell Hobbs Ltd.	Small domestic electrical appliances	10.53
Wilkinson Rubber Linatex Ltd.	Whole range of rubber products	2.06

Correction *Withdrawals: Category I*—The notice in 22 August 1975 issue (page 438) of *Trade and Industry* of the withdrawal by BP Chemicals Ltd. of the increase of 10.98 per cent in the price of fermentation alcohol was in error. Please delete 'Fermentation alcohol —10.98 per cent' and insert 'Ethanol/IMS—11.1 per cent'.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Technology

'Oh, yes, and what exactly does NEL do?'

by Dennis H. Mallinson, Director, National Engineering Laboratory

I moved to East Kilbride to become the Director of the National Engineering Laboratory in September 1974, so the first anniversary of that date seems to be an appropriate opportunity to do some stocktaking. Since my first-hand knowledge of NEL at the time I was approached about taking on this job was limited to a day's visit during an Open Week in 1970, my stocktaking will inevitably include an assessment of the Laboratory as seen through the eyes of a 'new boy' and some comparisons between the role of NEL and that of such Government defence and aerospace establishments with which I had been associated in my previous career.

As I joined the Engine Department of the Royal Aircraft Establishment – later to form the nucleus of the National Gas Turbine Establishment – in 1942 and spent the next 32 years dealing with research, development and production of aircraft engines, my engineering experience had accumulated in a fairly specialised field. Consequently one of the first things to register vividly on the mind on arrival at NEL was the wide range of engineering activity covered within the Laboratory. This is graphically brought home to me each time I finger through the weekly 'float' folder of divisional correspondence. Following in rapid succession can come letters making arrangements for the testing of gas-turbine-driven pumps destined for Peru, negotiations with a firm wishing to take a licence for optical gratings for metrology work, a short investigation report on a broken car axle, a bibliography on heat pipes, a response to an inquiry from Poland regarding availability of NEL 'software' for use with British machine tools, a table of thermal properties for an unusual mixture of fluids and so on.

Such a list is typical of the fascinating variety of the Laboratory's programme. A single tour of the 67-acre campus which the Laboratory occupies near the centre of Scotland's first and largest New Town has a similar impact. In one building a large flowmeter is being calibrated in readiness for an 'exchange of standards' with other European countries and the USA. Across the way a large self-burying anchor, developed by the Fluids Group, is being loaded for a further trial off the Scottish coast. Around the corner a car, fitted with a fuel-economy device is being prepared for a further test drive.

At the other end of the site a different type of vehicle can be seen – a military one propelled by hydrostatic motors in the wheel-hubs. For those with a nautical interest, there is a similar motor mounted within a propeller hub. One can see the fatigue test facilities, with a large vehicle mounted on four hydraulic jacks, capable of simulating a variety of different road surface loading conditions. Alongside it a tube train door assembly and a piece of tubular structure typical of an oil platform are each being subjected to the dynamic loadings they would experience in service.

By contrast to the noise of this activity there

Automatic span pitch measuring equipment in use in the metrology section of NEL.

A Vauxhall Viva undergoing a road simulation test. Large commercial vehicles, as well as cars, can be tested on the rig, on which many types of road surface can be realistically simulated and vehicle response to the 'road' analysed.

is the quiet of the creep laboratory, in which data on the high temperature properties of steels and other materials are accumulated, or the gentle hum of the large computer facility as the Univac 1108 digests the finite element stress analysis data relating to the pressure shell of a nuclear power station and rapidly regurgitates the results in tabular or graphical form. At other times the computer will be engaged on real-time processing of data from a score of terminals dotted around the country or be involved in the control of a variety of experimental machine tools in the nearby workshop of the Computer-Aided Manufacture Division.

A warning klaxon sounds and with a thump and a clunk a carriage weighing over a ton, propelled by a linear motor, accelerates on air cushion pads running on polished rails until at around 40 ft. per second it imparts a snatch loading upon an experimental rope rigged beneath the track. Elsewhere ropes of much bigger diameter can be seen undergoing slow cyclic testing, while, alongside, a massive 1,000-ton test machine strains at a length of anchor chain with links formed from 6-in. diameter steel.

The list of varied activities can stretch on – the quietness of a domestic sewing machine being assessed in an anechoic chamber, grease pads being developed to enable loads of many tons to be moved with relative ease around a shipyard, large cooling-fan blades being made in glass-reinforced plastics, carbon-fibre rods being built into a metrological space frame, experiments in casting, extrusion and hot or cold forming aimed at making components with a minimum of wasteful machining. Is there any wonder that the 'new boy' has found his induction into the work of NEL interesting and stimulating?

After the variety of the work, however, the second major impression to register was the fact that, unlike many other Government laboratories, say in the Ministry of Defence or the Department of the Environment, NEL is not established to do research and development on subjects or projects in which the Government has a direct interest, like a new military aircraft or a new type of motorway bridge. The 'output' of NEL is intended to be used, not by the Department of Industry itself, but by the many and varied companies which form the mechanical engineering and associated industries of the United Kingdom.

In order to try and ensure that the research funds of the Department are devoted to work which has a good chance of being exploited by British industry and for the national good, the Department of Industry established the now, I hope, well-known structure of Research Requirements Boards. NEL carries out work for five of these seven boards, though not surprisingly more than half our work falls under the authority of the Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tool Requirements Boards.

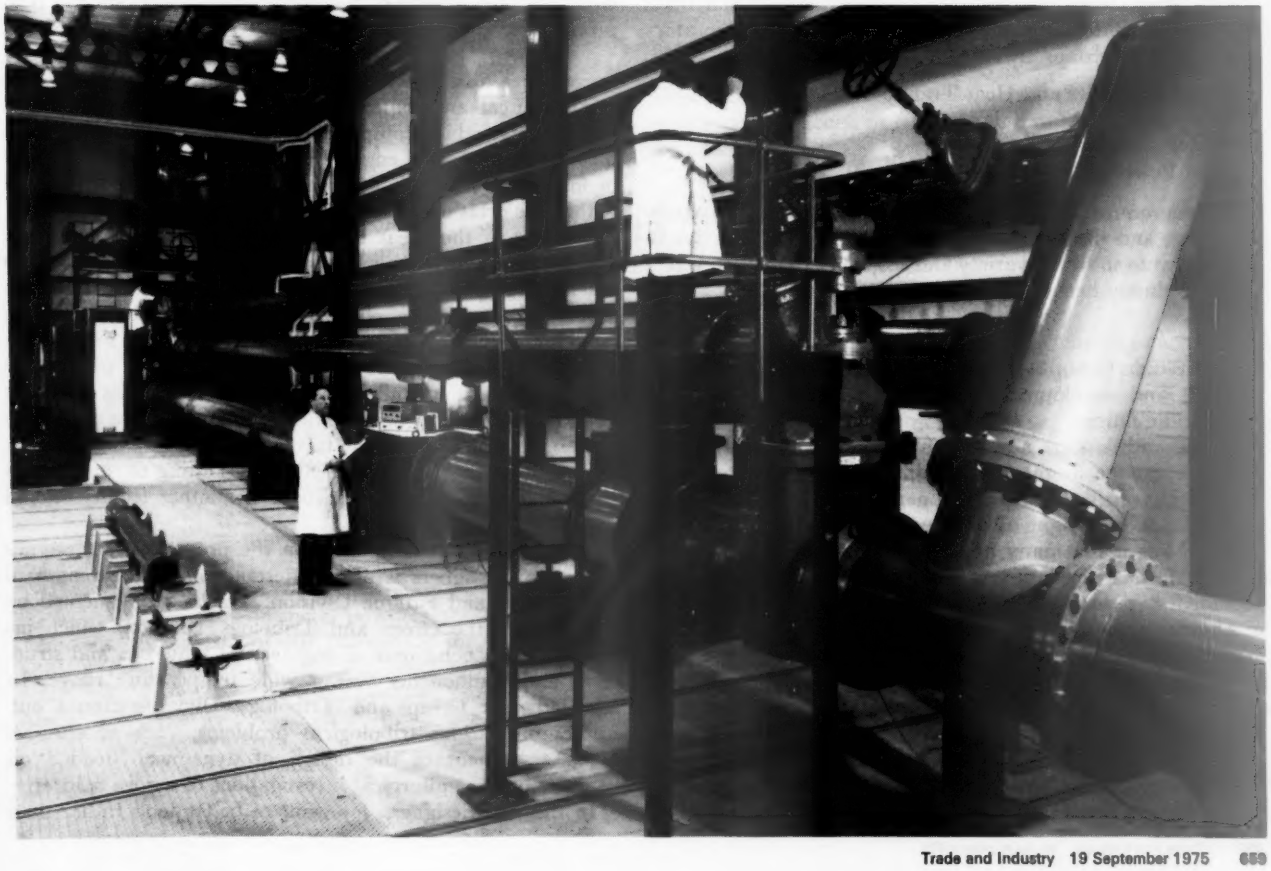
To a research contractor, the discipline imposed by these arrangements to justify one's programme, to estimate its cost and duration and then to monitor achievements against those

estimates, though at times a little irksome, has to be accepted as right and wholesome. In this respect I found little change from working within a system of defence requirements. But there is one big difference: in Defence or any other Department where the 'Government is the customer' the man doing R and D work knows that if he is successful the customer is ready and anxious to put the product into production (provided only that the Chancellor can still find the funds!).

In the Department of Industry it is different. The Requirements Boards are recognised as being only proxy-customers for the research and development which they approve. They can form a judgement that there is a strong likelihood of the R and D, if successful, being exploited, but they cannot guarantee that at the end of the day there will be a real customer to take over from the proxy ones. Consequently a considerable burden remains with the research contractor to seek out and establish industrial contacts and partners who are interested enough in individual pieces of work, to apply some of their own resources to it and subsequently to stand ready to exploit the work.

This is not an easy assignment when dealing with an industry as heterogeneous and as diversified as mechanical engineering. It also presents a major 'ethical' problem for a laboratory such as NEL where the taxpayer still provides the majority of the annual budget; namely the extent to which exclusivity of exploitation should be granted to one individual company in exchange for some financial support for the work. We have to find a compromise between the complete exclusivity which would be applicable if we were entirely a contract research organisation and the free dissemination of research results which is sometimes still referred to as 'the old DSIR system'. I find this one of the most difficult parts of my assignment.

The need for close liaison with industry brings me to the third, and final, major difference between the NEL environment and that of other Government laboratories of my previous acquaintance – the amount of effort which has to go into publicising our work and the services which we can provide for industry. The contrast with Defence, where security is often paramount and the 'need to know' identifies only a chosen few, is most marked. I have had to become attuned to the idea that in the case of most of our NEL work there is the need for as many people as possible to know. Hence, we run seminars, conferences and courses, making use of a fully-equipped lecture theatre and seminar rooms, we have a Marketing Division with industrial liaison officers, and we make films and publish information leaflets as well as more classical research reports. We are now experimenting with industrial clinics organised with the help of the Department's Regional Offices, and we spend a lot of staff time in maintaining industrial contacts and making new ones. Notwithstanding all this, I still meet many people who say, 'Oh, yes, and what exactly does NEL do?'. I am grateful therefore for this opportunity to present NEL through the columns of *Trade and Industry* and hope that as a result there will be a few more people who will no longer need to ask that question.



General view of the oil and gas flow measuring laboratory.

A national centre for research in mechanical engineering

by A. Lomax, Marketing Division, NEL

One of the Department of Industry's research laboratories, the National Engineering Laboratory, is a centre for mechanical engineering research and development employing a staff of over 900. The Laboratory is the largest establishment of its kind in Great Britain, possessing many advanced facilities for engineering design, development and testing. It provides consultancy, technical information, investigation and testing services to meet many of the needs of industry. Situated at the heart of the UK offshore industry, NEL's extensive resources are also directed towards technical problems associated with various aspects of that industry.

The Laboratory's main objective is to help increase the production capability and product quality of British engineering firms so as to enhance their operational profitability. During the past 25 years of NEL's existence much of its work has been translated into new or advanced industrial products, which have found a place in world markets. Though a large part of NEL's activities is concerned with meeting the immediate and long-term needs of British industry, the Laboratory also services part of the mechanical engineering R and D requirements of other customers, such as Government Departments and national institutions, particularly those concerned with the formulation of standards.

Organisation

The NEL is organised and administered around four main groups each with its own internal structure and laboratory facility. These groups are:

Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer
Structures and Materials
Manufacturing Systems
Fluid Power

The programme of work at the Laboratory is constantly changing, and the following profile of each group's activities is intended to show the variety and scope of expertise to which British industry has access.

Fluids

The Fluids Group's activities are mainly concerned with research and development studies of plant and machinery that handle fluids.

Pumps and fans are now such a common feature of our life that one can be forgiven for taking them for granted. The engineering of this type of machinery, nevertheless, is a technology in its own right. Over the years the Fluid Mechanics Division has made many notable contributions to this technology; it has developed special-purpose pumps and fans, provided expertise for the accurate testing of prototype machinery and has also developed a suite of computer programs for the complete design of this type of equipment. If prototype machines are too large to test directly, models are tested on specially designed rigs from which the prototype performance is predicted. Predictions on most full-scale turbine and pump performances are usually made this way.

Pumps or fans are the prime movers that set fluids in motion. Very often it becomes necessary to measure accurately the flow of these fluids in the pipes, or ducts, that carry them. As this task cannot be carried out successfully without reliable instruments the Flow Measurement Division, operating under the patronage of the British Calibration Service, is the custodian of standards for the accurate calibration of flow measuring devices. The division, in addition, undertakes design, development and test work on valves, and carries out other fluid flow investigations.

Heat is another important 'fluid'. It is also a form of energy and in the industrial sector its most important application is in the production of other forms of usable energy, such as electricity and petroleum fuels, and chemical products.

In the chemical and process industries, designers are constantly seeking accurate data on the thermodynamic properties of liquids and gases to design economic plants. The Properties of Fluids Division fulfils this important need through its data and measurement service and also has extensive experimental facilities to carry out special investigations where these are requested.

A sister division, the Applied Heat Transfer Division, carries out research on heat-transfer and heat-exchange apparatus without which no power house or process plant can function. The aim of this research is to effect improvements in the design and performance of such equipment as heat exchangers and condensers. For some time now this division's work has been extended to include novel devices such as heat pipes.

Structures and materials

Theoretical and experimental analysis of the design and strength of machine components and structures, investigations into the properties of engineering materials and development of formation processes are some of the activities that come within the orbit of the Structures and Materials Group.

In spite of the great care that is generally taken at the design stage a designer cannot always be sure that the machine component or structure he has designed will live up to his expectations in service. The difficulty, however, can often be overcome by carrying out simulated tests on a prototype. Such tests, condensed in time, are able to predict the life span accurately, and full-scale testing of vehicles and large structures and components under simulated service conditions is therefore one of the many tasks undertaken by the Strength of Components and Fatigue Division. Testing of ropes under realistic impact loading conditions is another facility offered by this division.

Acquisition of reliable data on the properties of materials needed by designers is also undertaken by the Strength of Components and Fatigue Division. This is supplemented by the work of the Creep and Tribology Division, which investigates the behaviour of engineering materials and structures and components over a wide temperature range. In addition, the Creep and Tribology Division carries out studies on various tribological problems, such as abrasive wear, assessment of the design of dynamically-loaded oil bearings and metallurgical investigations of service failures.

In the past designers, for want of better tools rather than

The Hydropin is a self-burying anchor that provides immense holding power vertically and horizontally and remains in the position in which it was laid. Hydropin anchors are used by Scottish-based construction companies closely associated with the offshore oil industry.

lack of desire or expertise, were often unable to produce economic designs that were also reliable. The advent of the computer has gone a long way towards rectifying this situation and the object of the work of the Design Analysis Division is to assess and optimise the use of the modern computer as an aid to engineering design. Development of computer-aided design techniques is an important function of this division, which has developed many computer packages for designing specific components. It provides a consultancy service on CAD to its customers and where appropriate also makes available to them its large library of programmes on a bureau basis.

Metal cutting, although the most common production method, has an inherent disadvantage in that a large quantity of material is wasted as swarf and chippings. Methods which can avoid this waste and at the same time offer comparable, if not better, economy in labour and capital are worth pursuing. Accordingly, the Formation and Fabrication Division investigates methods for manufacturing components by forming materials into a finished or near-finished shape. Its work is concentrated on cold and warm forging, the compacting and sintering of powders and forging from swarf; it has pioneered hot extrusion moulding of the more difficult materials. If required, the division will design, construct and develop tooling for cold and warm forging and for hot extrusion moulding of specific components.

The division's work on metal powders and swarf is an important contribution towards reclaiming the waste material produced by cutting tools.

Manufacturing systems

Developing and implementing computer-aided manufacturing technology and control instrumentation are the major activities of the Manufacturing Systems Group. Through its well-equipped metrology laboratory the Group also runs a comprehensive metrology service which includes NEL's Metrology Club. Membership of the Metrology Club entitles firms themselves to operate the Laboratory's metrological equipment to check the dimensional accuracy of components.

The divisions most concerned with modern manufacturing methods are the Computer Aided Manufacture Division and the Control Systems Division. The first of these divisions is mainly concerned with devising ways of programming numerically-controlled machine tools and the second with control engineering technology.

The Computer Aided Manufacture Division has developed a suite of programs (NELAPT processor) for drilling, milling and turning which are available on Univac, ICL and IBM computers. This makes NELAPT virtually computer-independent, and the division provides consultancy facilities not only on this processor but also on other processors, post-processors, and 'part programming' techniques. (A part program is a computer program, written in simple English-like words, of the series of steps that an NC machine tool is directed to follow in order to manufacture an engineering part. The function of NELAPT, commercially available on the NEL computer, is to process this part program.)

Fluid power

The main activities of the Fluid Power Group are the development of systems using fluid power components. The development of air bearings and on-site noise and vibration measurements are also the responsibility of this group.

A range of hydrostatically-driven pumps and motors with high efficiency, long life and low noise, has been developed and fitted to machine tools and off-road vehicles. Externally pressurised and self-pressurised air bearings have been developed and successfully applied to machine tools and machinery. A device called the 'Floatpad', for the movement of large structures, has been developed and is now being successfully marketed. An active consultancy service on problems connected with fluid power and air bearing applications and on noise and vibration is provided by the group, which also sponsors the Noise Control Club, membership of which permits access to NEL's extensive acoustic facilities and expertise.

General

All the four groups make regular use of the Laboratory's computer and workshop services, both of which are also used by external industrial and educational organisations and by other Government departments.

The Computer Services Division provides computing facilities for mechanical and civil engineering practitioners by the development of software, and a number of links to the Computer Aided Design network in the South and Midlands have been commissioned, making the NEL computer more easily accessible for remote users.

The workshop is fully equipped with modern machinery and the work is pre-costed and computer-loaded throughout its manufacture.

In a short article such as this, it is not possible to describe in detail all the work being done at NEL, but it is hoped that sufficient has been said to provide a broad appreciation of its activities. The main message is that there exists at NEL a very wide range of facilities and expertise, covering most aspects of mechanical engineering, including the offshore oil industry. The Laboratory was formed to provide technological assistance to industry, and one of the purposes of this article is to make NEL's services known to a wide audience in the hope that even more extensive use will be made of them.

Technology News

NEL and ICL collaborate on computer programs for numerical control

Numerically controlled (NC) machine tools are, as the name suggests, controlled by numbers. These numbers and other codes are punched on a paper tape which is then read by the NC control system to produce the cutter movements necessary to machine a component. If the shape of the component is complex, or if the control tape is long, then a computer is often used to prepare the tape.

The National Engineering Laboratory at East Kilbride and International Computers Ltd., have worked together on NC computer programs for the ICL 1900 range of computers for many years. Originating in the USA, but now a world standard, is the APT (Automatically Programmed Tools) language. APT was the language chosen by NEL and ICL as the basis for their developments and two compatible systems are available on ICL 1900 series computers. These are APT and NELAPT.

APT is the larger and more complex of the two systems and runs on large computers. It has a wide range of facilities and may be used for the manufacture of complex parts on multi-axis NC machine tools. Multi-axis here means that several slides of a machine tool may be moved simultaneously in a co-ordinated fashion. The photograph shows components machined at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, using a tape prepared by APT on an ICL 1900 series computer.

NELAPT runs on smaller computers within the range. Using the same language as APT it is limited to contouring in a principal plane (that is two slides moving at the same time) and point-to-point operations. Nevertheless, it is suitable for all but the most complex shapes and is in regular use for the preparation of control tapes for a wide range of components on a variety of machine tools.

For further information please contact the Computer Aided Manufacture Division at the National Engineering Laboratory.

New film shows computer graphics

A new colour film describing recent advances in computer graphics techniques has been produced on behalf of the Department of Industry's Computer Aided Design Centre, Cambridge (CADC).

The 18-minute film, 'Seeing is Believing', is the work of the Central Office of Information. It illustrates a variety of techniques, which make it possible to visualise a project as it will be and see it set realistically in its intended environment.

An impressive sequence shows visual simulation of projected air traffic flow at Copenhagen Airport in 1980. Application to NC machinery, highway planning and architecture are also demonstrated.

The basic software package used to produce the graphics is CADC's GINO-F. It is a library or arcs, lines and other characters which combine to produce a computer picture. Further developments of the GINO-F package enable unwanted visual information (HIDDEN LINES) to be removed and tone (GREYSCALES) to be incorporated allowing the user to improve further his illusion of reality.

Copies of the film can be hired or purchased from Central Film Library, Government Buildings, Bromyard Avenue, Acton, London W3 7JB, or from its associated libraries in Scotland and Wales.

Parts machined at the Royal Aircraft Establishment, Farnborough, using the ICL 1900 APT System.

New plastics for the environment

Coloroll are now marketing 'Bioplastic', a new type of packaging material which breaks down harmlessly in the soil.

Ever since Thor Heyerdahl reported seeing pieces of plastic floating in mid-ocean, there has been increasing consciousness of the problems of this type of material. Plastic packaging, once it has passed through the hands of manufacturer, wholesaler and retailer, does not simply disappear. It reconcentrates at rubbish tips and the sites of land-fill operations and for this reason research has been carried out, in recent years, into how plastics can be decomposed.

Early developments, which led to the photo-degradable products (which were sensitive to light), had severe limitations, but now research into starch-filled plastics carried out by Gerry Griffin at Brunel University, has led to promising results.

Bioplastic has many applications including carrier bags, sacks for refuse disposal, non-returnable bottles, meat trays and disposable cups. Because the material breaks down into humus when buried, it offers a means by which land used for refuse dumping can be subsequently reclaimed, and used for housing and recreation.

Coloroll have now invested in a £600,000 plant for producing Bioplastic carrier bags, the first commercial application, in this country, for bio-degradable plastics. As well as their attractions from an environmental point of view, because of the starch content, the material has the added advantage that it is slightly cheaper than the conventional plastic.

Already the Spar grocery chain has ordered several million Bioplastic carrier bags, and Bioplastic is being marketed by Coloroll under patent in more than 20 different countries – a firm in Venezuela, for instance, will be producing Bioplastic cups for vending machines, manufactured under licence.

In agriculture, the use of plastics is widespread, where it helps to prevent loss of water caused by drainage or evaporation. After the harvest, disposing of the plastic can be a problem, especially if burning is prohibited by law. It is hardly surprising that Gerry Griffin has already received many inquiries about the application of Bioplastic in this field.

Energy saving: ideas from the Select Committee

The first report from the Select Committee on Science and Technology, on the subject of energy conservation, recommends that a 'task force' of ministers, officials and outside experts should be set up to produce an R & D programme for long-term energy conservation, and to improve general efficiency in energy use.

It also suggests that large users of energy should be consulted by the Government, to agree on savings targets and on patterns for different fuels.

To reduce domestic consumption, the report recommends that an 'insulation coefficient' should be quoted for each new house.

To help people make an informed choice, it is suggested that all new appliances should have rating plates, prominently displayed.

Standards of quality for insulation materials and cavity fill are singled out as deserving of special attention. Restrictions on private cars are seen as desirable and it is thought that tighter regulations on the provision of 'company cars' might be one way of bringing this about.

The expansion of private generating capacity should, it is thought, be encouraged, but overall demand should not be stimulated by offering special rates and the electricity and gas tariffs should not offer lower prices for additional consumption.

The report also considers the possibility of Government grants to local authorities and regional health authorities for items such as boiler replacement, more effective heating control systems, or for insulation improvements to council houses, schools and hospitals.

One of the drawbacks of the present system is that housing cost yardsticks make it difficult for local authorities to raise construction standards or to choose a heating system with the lowest running cost, rather than with the lowest capital cost. In several respects, this hampers energy saving and the report recommends that such practices should be reviewed.

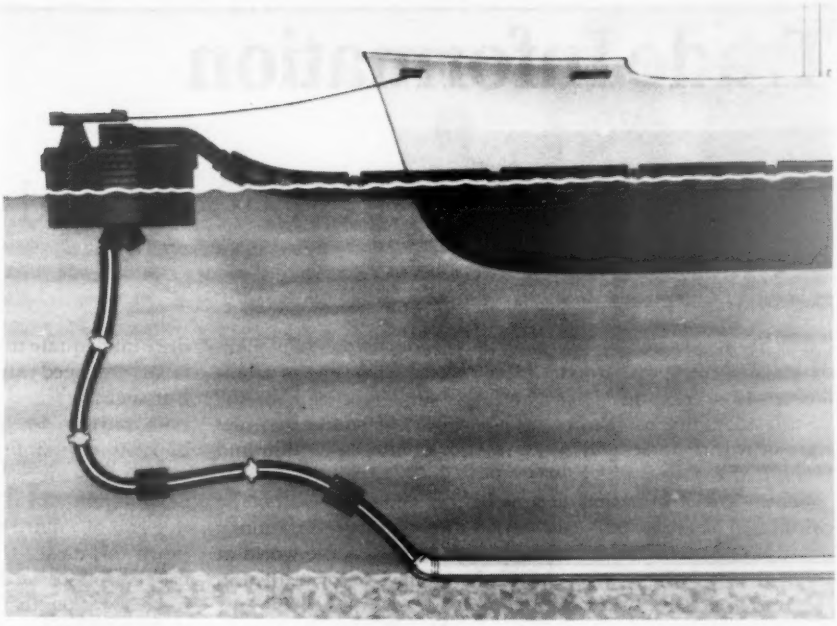


Diagram showing how 'Saflote' with its built-in buoyancy, is designed to carry oil from the tanker to the single point mooring buoy.

Preventing oil spillage from monobuoys

At a time when protests have been made about the danger of oil leaks from monobuoy systems, Dunlop have introduced a new floating hose to reduce the risk of oil spillage.

The single point mooring buoy, first introduced in 1959 as an oil loading system, has increased in popularity in recent years. Many oil tankers are too large for existing harbours, while other types of loading and unloading berths, such as piers and sea islands, demand more favourable weather conditions.

Basically the monobuoy system involves a flexible floating oil discharge hose attached to a single buoy which serves as a mooring terminal and pipeline manifold.

There are now four such buoys around the coast of the United Kingdom, with another 10 in service or in the process of being installed, in the North Sea, part of a world total of about 150.

Considering the numbers involved, there have not been many cases of spillage, but mistakes can occasionally be made.

A recent claim for pollution damages, involving a single mooring buoy off Nova Scotia, cost the company £½ million.

The advantage of the new 'Saflote' hose is that, if there were a failure in the primary carcass (or inner tube), the secondary carcass (a thick outer lining) would contain the oil, at the same time allowing the hose to distort, increasing the outside diameter by at least 35 per cent, giving a visible warning while still allowing the oil to be transferred. This means that all the oil can be contained until the defective hose has been removed.

Control technology and better pit performance – the World Coal Conference

The next dramatic step towards greater productivity in coal mining will come from the spread of control technology to the many hundreds of machines and processes which win coal at the face, transport it to the surface, and prepare it for the customer, Peter Tregelles, Director of the National Coal Board's Mining Research and Development Establishment, told the World Coal Conference in London last week.

Although there is no spectacular new coal winning technique, there is room for much better utilisation of existing plant, machinery and other resources. Under-utilisation stems from problems of reliability in performance and the inherent difficulties which always arise from complex operations. Real advances in performance must come from finding solutions to these problems – and he said, control technology is a key which can unlock that particular door.

Automatic control of certain machines and equipment – from the coalface to the surface preparation plant – is already well advanced and proving its value in processes not always regarded as suitable for automation.

Principal objective of the Board's R and D programme is the introduction of all suitable forms of control technology, including the use of sensors, data transmission, and computer control. One essential result could be to speed exploitation of new developments, including the extension of existing mines and coalfields and the exploration of new coal discoveries.

Speaking at the same conference Leslie Grainger, National Coal Board member for science, said that in the past few months a major effort had concentrated on agreeing a joint research programme under the aegis of the International Energy Agency, with the UK acting as leader.

Expected to start in October, the programme included a number of detailed project studies and one physical programme on fluidised combustion. A pressurised fluidised combustion rig would be constructed which would be the most advanced and significant so far. Its aim would be to provide a basic technology to complement prototype projects in several other countries. Costs of constructing the rig and operating it for two or three years would be about £10 million.

He went on that collaboration on final prototype or demonstration stages would probably be beyond the scope of international research without commercial assistance.

Trade Information

Britain, the world economy and trade with Hong Kong

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, chose two main themes for his speech to the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce last week during his Far East tour – prospects for the British economy in relation to the world economy and the state of world trade, and trade relations between Britain and Hong Kong.

'The current situation in the British economy cannot be considered in isolation,' said Mr. Shore, 'for our situation is greatly influenced by current economic trends in the world at large – trends which affect our trade, Hong Kong's trade and the trade of many other countries.

'The world recession is the main problem confronting us all. It is a problem made all the more distressing because it was predictable and avoidable. It was natural that governments should have sought to protect their economies from the balance of payments and inflationary consequences of the oil crisis, but too many countries have taken too little account of the impact of their actions. These actions have inevitably produced the deflationary consequences that are so clear to us today.

'All the industrialised countries of the world – countries on which Hong Kong like Britain depends for her exports – have shared the same experience of declining output and high unemployment. To quote just two examples – in the second quarter of this year industrial production in the United States was 13 per cent lower, and unemployment 76 per cent higher than a year before; in Japan production fell over the same period by 14 per cent, and unemployment rose by 60 per cent. In the United Kingdom, while the decline in production has been less pronounced, unemployment has risen by 55 per cent. What is needed now is the right kind of action by the international community – and by this I mean chiefly action against recession by the countries whose economies are strongest so that world production and trade can once again expand.

'As far as the domestic British economy is concerned, I want to make two points. First, we know that we are facing serious and distressing economic problems. But second, we have the ability, the resources and the will to solve them, and to gain for ourselves a more secure prosperity in the years ahead.

'Unemployment and recession are problems we share with the rest of the world but our rate of inflation is higher than that of nearly all our industrial competitors: that is why the campaign to counter it is at the core of the Government's economic strategy. As you know, the plan to restrict increases in incomes to a maximum of £6 a week has very strong public support. The objective is backed by the three main political parties, by the CBI and industry in the public and private sectors, as well as by most of the major unions including the miners, and only last week it received firm endorsement from the TUC annual conference. We are determined to get down to an inflation rate of 10 per cent by the third quarter of 1976 and to single figures by the end of next year. And we are equally determined to maintain policies over the longer term which will hold back domestic inflation and prevent the resurgence of the present rates of increase.

'Now some may say that this is altogether too slow a procedure inadequate to the demands of a major emergency and that what we need are statutory measures and a price freeze. But such measures have been tried before, by governments of both parties: they work for a while, but attract increasing opposition and finally break down. We have deliberately chosen to achieve our objective by consent, backed by patient explanation and discussion. There may be a price to be paid in terms of a more prolonged period of economic convalescence but if this means that the policy is understood and accepted by all sections of the community, that it becomes a common interest rather than a cause of division, then I firmly believe that the price is worth paying.

'While the battle against inflation has now been joined, on the balance of payments front where the 1974 deficit was so menacing I can report to you a marked change for the better. The OECD have predicted that in the course of 1975 Britain may in fact increase its share of world export trade.

'Reports that British industry is uncompetitive on a wide scale in export markets are, quite frankly, nonsense. British exports have held up well during the recession – better, indeed, than those of most other industrial countries. This year we have more than doubled our exports to the oil-producing countries. Our exports of finished manufactures to Japan have increased over recent months at a time when Japan's imports have been falling.

'Of course the problems on our external account are not yet solved but Britain is unique among the major industrial countries in acquiring in the 1970s a new energy source – North Sea oil. This oil, together with our resources of natural gas, coal and nuclear power, will give us the strongest energy base of any western country. North Sea oil has already begun to flow: some 3 million tons will be landed this year, 15 million tons in 1976, building up rapidly thereafter year by year until by 1980 we expect to be bringing ashore between 100 and 130 million tons of North Sea oil a year. The added strength this will bring to Britain will be obvious if I say that each million tons will mean a saving, at current prices, of around £35 million to our balance of payments.

'The development of the North Sea oil reserves has required a tremendous input of financial and technical resources. The frontiers of technology have been pushed forward to overcome the formidable problems presented by North Sea conditions. In an open and highly competitive international market, British industry has entered with growing success into the business of producing offshore equipment. Last year alone British suppliers secured orders worth some £520 million. They have won orders for 14 production platforms, including some of the largest and most advanced yet designed. Installation is going ahead rapidly. As Britain's production expands, so will the proportion of North Sea requirements we are able to supply. Britain will also be increasingly well placed to take advantage of the huge and growing world-wide demand for offshore development facilities.

'Now I would like to turn to trade relations between Britain and Hong Kong. Trade in both directions developed well in 1974, but has fallen back somewhat in the first seven months of this year, reflecting depressed conditions in

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, leads a party on to the British-made HM2 hoverferry at Queen's Pier, Hong Kong, for the 15-minute journey to Kwun Tong, where he had several engagements. The hoverferry is one of four supplied to the ferry operators, the Hong Kong-Yaumati Ferry Co., since November last year by Hovermarine Transport Ltd. Behind Mr. Shore is David Jordan, Director of the Hong Kong Government Department of Commerce and Industry. Also in the picture is Lau Chan-kwok, Chairman of the board of directors of the ferry company.

both markets. Hong Kong is, of course, an open market in which British exporters must compete on more or less equal terms with their foreign rivals, some of whom have the advantage of proximity. But despite the good work of those who sell British goods in Hong Kong, whether representatives of British firms or local agents, our share of Hong Kong imports in recent years has not been as large as it should have been. In some sectors we do well, and have a major share of the market, but overall our performance has been disappointing.

'What can we do about this? As far as my Department is concerned, we are sponsoring an increasing number of trade missions to and from Hong Kong, we have organised two major exhibitions in the last couple of years, and a further exhibition – the British Industrial and Technology Exhibition – is to be held next November. At the British end my Department have an advisory committee of businessmen under the chairmanship of John Browne, of Swires, whose job it is to draw the attention of their fellow-industrialists to the opportunities which exist in Hong Kong. If there is more you think we can do, Mr. Kinnear and his colleagues in the Trade Commission, to whose dedication to the task or promoting British exports to Hong Kong I am glad to pay public tribute, would be glad to hear from you.

'But the Government can only do so much. The task of selling goods is one for industry. I am told that some 4,000 British firms are represented in Hong Kong. Many of these representatives are no doubt in this room. Is there more which you can do, or encourage your principals to do? We in Britain are not asking for special treatment, but I firmly believe that more British companies, benefiting from the floating pound, can compete successfully in Hong-Kong, and that some of those which are already in the market can do more.

'I attach great importance to the improvement of our exports with Hong Kong. It is not part of my policy to seek an exact balance in our trade with Hong Kong or any other country, but our widening imbalance with Hong Kong must be a cause for anxiety. It is, I believe, in the interest of Hong Kong, in the widest sense, that the closest possible economic and trading links should be maintained with Britain, that trade between us should be more evenly balanced, and that the right way to achieve this is by an expansion of business rather than by contraction and restriction.

'Britain's general responsibility for the well-being of Hong Kong embraces a concern for her industry and her exports. In this context I should like to refer briefly to Hong Kong's relationship with the European Economic Community. Here Britain has a double obligation – that of the responsible power and that a Member of State of the Community – and in consequence our position is at times misunderstood. It is our firm determination, which I personally have exercised on every occasion possible, to further Hong Kong's interests in Brussels to the fullest extent practicable, but we are only one voice among nine, and however vigorous and determined our arguments, we will not always prevail. Nevertheless, if on any occasion we fail to get all we want, there will often be another opportunity to put forward the Hong Kong case.

'We have also pressed, probably at some cost to purely British interests, for Hong Kong's inclusion in the United States scheme. And when I am in Tokyo next week I shall be raising again the scope for improvement in Hong Kong's access to the Japanese scheme.

'As far as textiles are concerned, our efforts in the recent negotiations were directed to securing as liberal a package for Hong Kong as was practicable in the circumstances. I think it true to say that the textile trade in Hong Kong recognises the advantage of this package which gives them an assured, and in some cases substantially increased, share of European markets. There are also real advantages to Hong Kong in the way in which the European Community is applying the multifibre arrangement to textile trade with countries such as Korea

and Taiwan, which have only more recently developed their textile exports.

'For the successful outcome of the textile talks in Brussels, Hong Kong owes much to the skill of her negotiators. Their mastery of the issues in presenting the Hong Kong case made a considerable impact in Brussels.

'You may know that earlier this year the British Government came under very strong pressure from management and unions in our own textile industry to cut textile imports back by 20 per cent of existing levels. After careful deliberation, we thought it right not to accede to the industry's request. This was not an easy decision, at a time when unemployment and short-time working in our textile industry is on the increase and factories are closing down. In rejecting these calls, and protectionist pressures from a range of other industries, the Government have had very much in mind not only the dangers of triggering off a trade war, but also the interests of other members of the Commonwealth, like Hong Kong, which have most to lose by a general slide into protectionism.

'What I have said reflects my own concern, as Secretary of State, for Hong Kong's Trade, but the British interest in Hong Kong is not just an economic one. It relates to the Territory's well-being in the widest possible sense. I know that I speak not just for myself and the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, but for the British Government as a whole when I reaffirm that, whatever our occasional differences, we attach very great importance to Hong Kong and to the prosperity of its people. We congratulate you on what you have achieved, we admire your determination to face up to and overcome difficulties, and we wish you all possible success for the future.'

Serious dangers in trade protectionism

Peter Shore speaks in Korea

There were serious dangers in trade protectionism by nations and in any circumstances it was very much second best to trade expansion – this was part of message contained in a speech in Seoul by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, at a dinner given by the Korean Government on 12 September. Mr. Shore was in Korea following his visit to Hong Kong and before travelling to Japan during his tour of the Far East.

'The starting point for economic realism today is to recognise that the present depression in the world economy as a whole is more serious than any in our postwar experience,' said Mr. Shore. 'The economic indicators in country after country tells the same depressing story of economic performance falling far short of what human resources and man's determination could in more favourable circumstances achieve.

'Depressed output, high and rising unemployment and rapid inflation have been the lot both of developed countries, like Britain and Japan, and of those developing countries, like Korea, which are without oil or other natural resource wealth. The result of this depressed activity is that the volume of world trade this year has actually shown a sharp absolute fall, in contrast with its continuous, if varied, pattern of increase in recent years. And with the added burden of increased oil prices, many countries have had to face unprecedented balance of payments difficulties.

'We must also be realistic about the prospects for recovery. The United States, West Germany and Japan have all taken some reflationary measures, and the amount of spare capacity and savings in these critical economies is clearly sufficient for a rapid recovery. But there is, as yet, little firm evidence of this recovery. We must look to those countries which enjoy a satisfactory – indeed an excessive – balance of payments position to take early and sufficient action to lead the world out of recession.

'One conclusion we in Britain have drawn is that, just as many problems these days spill increasingly across frontiers, so many of the remedies must be sought through international action. Today one country's price increase all too speedily becomes another country's inflation; one country's recession can lead to distress elsewhere; and new barriers to trade can so easily become the acceptable excuse for others round the globe.

'Ever since World War Two, Britain has been one of the leaders of the advance towards international economic collaboration, and we see the present situation as one which the world community must meet constructively, or resign itself to a future against which the past growth of world trade will seem like a golden age.

'Of course, there are protectionist forces in Britain, much strengthened by the recession just as they are in every other country. We understand the human reasons for this very well. But we believe that in present circumstances there are serious dangers in protectionism, and that in any circumstances it is very much the second best to trade expansion. We feel, therefore, that it is most important that the spread of protectionism should be resisted everywhere – and that where new trade restrictions have been introduced that they should be removed as speedily as possible.

'We are also putting great stress on the multilateral trade negotiations now in progress in Geneva. We value them both for the reductions in trade barriers they can achieve, and as a signal of the world's confidence that trade expansion is the way forward.'

Reviewing prospects for the British economy, including the development of North Sea oil, the Secretary of State concluded: 'Britain is setting about the tasks which have to be done with realism and determination. We believe that we know what the problems are and we have it in our own hands to solve them.

'Both Britain and Korea depend on the continued growth of world trade. Both countries are far from self-sufficient in food or raw materials. We must both export manufactured goods to pay for essential imports. This leads us to share a fundamental community of interest in international trade policies which transcends any temporary differences we may have.

'I hope you will take this visit to Korea as a measure of the British Government's resolution to expand the contacts and links between our two countries. Through the exchange of goods, and the interchange of technology, our two economies are becoming linked more closely together. This can only be to our mutual advantage.'

Earlier the same day Mr. Shore had addressed the Korea/British Business Promotion Committee during which he had said: 'Given the depth of the recession in world trade, the volume of British exports has held up well this year. Indeed in this respect we have done rather better than most of our competitors.

'In Anglo-Korean trade we can also look back on a period in which, given the prevailing economic circumstances, commerce has continued to flourish. In the first seven months of 1975 Korean exports to Britain increased by 22 per cent from £34 million to £41 million, while British exports to Korea grew by 28 per cent from £23 million to £29 million. By any standards it is an achievement of which we can all be proud.'

Arrangements for licensing exports of non-alloy ferrous scrap to non-EEC countries

As mentioned briefly in last week's *Trade and Industry* (page 626), the existing arrangements for licensing exports of non-alloy ferrous scrap to countries outside the European Community are to continue for a further three months from 1 October 1975. Applications for licences valid from 1 October should be received not later than 25 September.

The quota available for the quarter commencing 1 October 1975 is expected to be about the same as that for the present quarter, ie 80,000 tonnes. Under the established arrangements agreed for scrap in the Community, licences should be valid for two months and should be granted only to qualified exporters who normally deal with third countries, on evidence of firm orders. As far as possible licences should not be issued in any one month for a total tonnage of more than one-third of the quota for the quarter.

Licences under the quota will be restricted to established traders in non-alloy ferrous scrap and preference will be given to established exporters and to those who operate their own wharf facilities. The tonnage allocated will be related to, *inter alia*, the volume of firm orders obtained by the applicant direct from a buyer in a third country. Export performance against licences issued will be taken into account in the consideration of allocations.

Export licences will be available for the following types of non-alloy ferrous scrap only:

i compressed baled material, other than compressed unused sheet and sheet cuttings;

ii loose used wrought material containing 90 per cent or more, by weight, of a material of a thickness not exceeding 3mm;

iii turnings and borings.

Applications are now invited for export licences which will be valid for a period of not more than two months, which will not be extended if the licence is not wholly used. Applications should be supported by documentary evidence (in English) of firm orders to sell to a buyer in a non-Community country (subject to the availability of a United Kingdom export licence), stipulated tonnages of any one or more of the specified types of ferrous scrap in any stipulated period commencing not earlier than 1 October. Telex messages giving full details will be accepted but must be followed by the written confirmation of the overseas buyer within not more than two weeks afterwards. Additional supporting information is required, where appropriate, as follows:

a From any applicant who did *not* receive a licence to export non-alloy ferrous scrap to third countries in the period July/September 1975 –

i a statement of the total tonnage of non-alloy ferrous scrap which the applicant traded in the last 12 months.

ii details of the total tonnage of exports in each month of 1975 to date of non-alloy ferrous scrap made by the applicant as follows:

	To Community destinations	To Third Countries
i Exports against own orders		
ii Exports against orders obtained by others.		

b From any applicant who received a licence to export non-alloy ferrous scrap to third countries in the period July/September 1975 details of their exports of such scrap to Community destinations in July, August and September to date (i) against their own orders and (ii) against orders obtained by others.

c From any applicants who operate their own wharf facilities and who have not previously supplied the information, a brief description of the facilities and whether these are owned or leased. Details of any lease should be provided.

Applications for licences valid from 1 October should be received not later than 25 September. Applications or evidence of further orders may be submitted after that date on the understanding that it may then no longer be practicable to take these into account for licences in October. Later applications will, however, be taken into account in subsequent months until the quota is exhausted.

Applications for export licences accompanied by the relevant supporting evidence as requested, should be forwarded to the Department of Trade, Export Licensing Branch, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Continuation of the present relaxation of controls will depend on adequate supplies being maintained to UK users. No individual export licences are required for the export of ferrous scrap to Community countries.

Investment mission from USA

Twenty-one leading American businessmen were due to arrive in Britain yesterday 18 September, for a tour of some of the country's industrial areas and talks with top executives of companies here (including a number with American parentage), trades union leaders, bankers, Government ministers and officials.

A few of the companies, like Hoover, whose retiring Chairman, Felix Mansager, is acting as 'leader' of the party, already have substantial investments in manufacturing plants in Britain – and, as in Hoover's case, a very creditable export record. Almost all of the companies export goods or materials from the USA to Europe. Among the topics the visitors will be discussing are the merits of Britain as a manufacturing base for the large European market. The Prime Minister will be giving a reception for the mission, which will be returning to the United States on 27 September.

After arriving by air at Glasgow the Americans will be visiting Edinburgh, Prestwick (for a flight in Concorde), North East England, London and South Wales.

Members of the mission are: Messrs. F. N. Mansager, lately Chairman, Hoover Co.; R. D. Abelson, Chairman, Maremont Corp.; J. F. Alibrandi, President, Whittaker Corp.; R. F. Barker, Chairman, PPG Industries Inc.; F. L. Brengel, President, Johnson Controls Inc.,; J. T. Connor, Chairman, Allied Chemical Corp.; W. J. Corrigan, President, Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corp.; C. Devenow, Chairman, Sheller-Globe Corp.; C. H. Dyson, Chairman, Dyson-Kissner Corp.; R. W. Galvin, Chairman, Motorola Inc. Chicago; V. L. Gregory, President, Rohm and Haas Co.; J. L. Hanigan, Chairman, Brunswick Corp.; M. C. Holm, Chairman, Carrier Corp.; R. E. Hunter, Chairman, Weatherhead Co.; E. R. Kane, President, E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co.; R. C. Koontz, President, Diebold Inc.; H. D. Luke, Chairman, Reliance Electric Co. Inc.; R. H. Malott, Chairman, FMC Corp.; M. Shepherd, Jr., President, Texas Instruments Inc.; F. R. Sullivan, Chairman and President, Walter Kidde and Co. Inc.; and W. L. Wearly, Chairman, Ingersoll-Rand Co.

UK/Canada films co-production agreement signed in London

A Films Co-Production Agreement between the Governments of the United Kingdom and Canada was signed on 12 September in London by Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, and by Hugh Faulkner, Canadian Secretary of State for Cultural Affairs.

The Agreement has been made under the terms of Section 19 of the Films Act, 1960, which provides that films made in accordance with the terms of any agreement between Her Majesty's Government and any other Government may be treated as British films, and so qualify as British quota films and be eligible for levy benefits. The films will similarly qualify for Canadian nationality and be eligible for the corresponding support measures made available by the Canadian Government to Canadian national films.

The Agreement will remain in force for three years. Thereafter it will remain in force for successive periods, each of three years, unless notice of intention to terminate it is given three months before the end of any period, in which case it will terminate at the end of that period.

A White Paper, setting out the text of the Agreement in full, will be published shortly. An Order in Council will be required to give effect to the Agreement.

The two Governments will appoint a Mixed Commission to supervise and review the working of the Agreement.

The Annex to the Agreement provides that over each period of three years there is to be an overall balance between the financial contributions made by the co-producers of each country and in the usage of studios and laboratories and the employment of all creative, craft and technical personnel.

Projects for co-production films must have a minimum budget of £150,000 or Canadian $350,000, whichever is the greater at the prevailing rate of exchange. The share of the producer with the minority financial participation must not be less than 30 per cent of the total cost of producing the film. Projects must be jointly approved by the British and Canadian authorities.

Subject to the requirements of national law each of the contracting parties will allow the nationals or residents of the other to enter and reside in Great Britain or Canada as the case may be for the purpose of making or exploiting a co-production film.

This is the fourth British films co-production agreement made under Section 19 of the Films Act, 1960. The Franco-British Film Co-Production Agreement came into force on 6 November 1965; the British-Italian Film Co-Production Agreement on 25 November 1967, and the Anglo-German Films Co-Production Agreement on 24 April 1975. Eleven co-production films have so far been made under the terms of the Franco-British co-production agreement, nine under the British-Italian agreement and one under the Anglo-German agreement.

JAPAN DISSATISFIED WITH THE LIMITED RESULTS ACHIEVED THROUGH AGENTS AND DISTRIBUTORS?

EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES await enterprising British manufacturers in the form of joint venture operations, wholly owned subsidiaries, branch sales operations and technological licence agreements in Japan. But in order to ensure that the best possible advantage is taken of such opportunities, it is absolutely essential to appoint a local representative possessing the necessary expertise and connections to act on your behalf. As Advisers and Consultants with years of experience of negotiations with the Japanese in the above sectors, we are pleased to offer our specialised services, which also include market research.

Mr. Rock from our Tokyo office is now stationed in the U.K. His address is 88 Wimborne Road, Poole, BH15 2DA, (Tel: 020 13 79820), and he is available for consultations with clients whenever necessary.

G. INOUYE, Managing Director
RAYDEN (JAPAN) LTD, Shokin Building, 11-12, 8-chome, Ginza, Chuo-ku, Tokyo, Japan. Tel: 571-8823/5. Telex: J28647 (Raydenco).
Cables: Raydenco, TOKYO

Application for reimposition of import duty on EEC goods and associated reductions of duty on non-EEC goods

The Department of Trade has received applications for the reimposition of the United Kingdom 'M' and 'full' rate of duties with effect from 1 January 1976 on the following items. This is in response to the notice of the Annual Review of temporary suspension/reductions of import duty published in *Trade and Industry* on 22 August 1975.

Tariff heading	Description	Reference
27.07	Cresylic acid	T 13496
28.33	Ammonium bromide	T 14815
29.36	Toluene-4-sulphonamide	T 14082
29.36	Toluenesulphonamide, mixed isomers, containing not less than 75 per cent by weight and not more than 85 per cent by weight of toluene-4-sulphonamide	T 15412
55.02	Bleached cotton linters	T 11110

Representations should be addressed to Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66/74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, giving the reference shown above. These should be received by 3 October 1975.

Imports of potatoes other than seed potatoes

The following amendment should be made to Notice to Importers 1505 published in *Trade and Industry*, 5 September 1975 (page 576), about import licensing arrangements for potatoes:

For the third paragraph, substitute the following:

'Initially, licences will be valid up to 30 November 1975, although the normal seasonal arrangements will apply whereby new potatoes, other than those from the Eastern Area, can be imported except during September and October under the authority of the Open General Import Licence, ie without the need for an individual import licence (potatoes from the Eastern Area cannot be imported under the authority of the Open General Import Licence at any time of the year). But traders are reminded that individual import licences may be revoked at any time before the date of expiry without notice.'

Malta forum

The London Chamber of Commerce and Industry are staging a half-day forum to discuss trade and investment opportunities in Malta on the morning of 30 September 1975 at the London Chamber building, 69 Cannon Street.

The forum will be chaired by Mr. S. Hinchcliff, deputy chairman (industrial) of the Dowty Group.

Further details of the forum are available from Miss A. Russell, West European Section, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB (tel. 01-248 4444, ext. 132).

Tariff and Trade Notices

Belgium and Luxembourg

Import licensing. The *Moniteur Belge* No. 158 of 19 August 1975 published a decree dated 7 August 1975, amending the decree of 20 March 1973 concerning import licensing. Import licences are now required for the following goods when of non-EEC origin and imported from the United Kingdom:

Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (continuous). Terry towelling and similar terry fabrics of cotton. Yarn of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste) not put up for retail sale. Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste). Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised. Stockings, under stockings, socks, ankle socks, sockettes and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised, of synthetic textile fibres with the exception of ladies' stockings. Women's, girls' and infants' under garments of textile fabric other than knitted or crocheted. Brassieres. Bed and table linen other than of cotton and sacks and bags of a kind used for the packing of goods manufactured from certain forms of polyethylene or polypropylene.

The BN tariff headings involved are 51.04A, 55.08, 56.05A, 56.07, 60.02, ex 60.03, 61.04, ex 61.09, ex 62.02B and ex 62.03B. The decree entered into force on 19 August 1975. Copies of the decree (in French) are available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 288/466/467.

Norway

Import licensing of certain textile and garment items. A temporary automatic licensing arrangement has been introduced on the importation from all sources of the following textile and garment items:

BN no.	Description of goods
ex 60.03	Stockings and socks (except ladies' stockings) of other material than wool
ex 61.01 and ex 61.02	Slacks, jeans and trousers (except shorts) of cotton
ex 61.02	Blouses of cotton or discontinuous man-made fibres
ex 60.04 and ex 61.03	Shirts of cotton or other textile fibres
ex 62.02	Bedwear of cotton or other textile fibres

The arrangement is introduced as a matter of surveillance only and is not intended to establish any new restraints on imports of these products. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

France

Honey originating in and consigned from certain countries (other than EEC and associated states: and EFTA states). A notice in the French *Journal Officiel* of 4 September 1975 declares that a quota has been opened for natural honey (BN04.06) originating in and consigned from certain countries (other than EEC and associated states; and EFTA states). From 19 September 1975 the exporter will be obliged to send a pro-forma invoice in duplicate to the importer to enable the latter to apply for an import licence.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext 423/408/7174/482.

Tomato concentrates, peeled tomatoes and tomato juice from third countries. A notice in the French *Journal Officiel* of 4 September 1975 states that from 1 September 1975 quantitative restrictions relating to the importation of tomato concentrates (Ex 20-02C), peeled tomatoes (Ex 20-02C) and tomato juice (Ex 20.07B) into France from third countries are cancelled. A further notice is to be published.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 423/408/7174/482.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exporters (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Lebanon

Tariff amendments. The Lebanese authorities issued on 1 and 6 August 1975 the following amendments to the customs tariff:

Heading no.	Description of goods	Basis for collection	Normal tariff
63.02	Used or new rags, scrap twine, cordage, rope and cables and worn out articles of twine, cordage, rope or cables	Value	Free
68.12	Articles of asbestos-cement, of cellulose fibre-cement or the like:		
	a Pipes, sheets and paving and facing tiles; roofing sheets:		
	1 Pipes, round, laminated from the inside, made up of two layers separated by an insulating material		
12		Value	8%
19	2 Other	Value	36%
21	b Other	Value	8%

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7062/475.

U.S.A.

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Israel

Lifting of ban on motor cars and pick-ups. The Israeli authorities have announced that the temporary ban on imports of motor cars and pick-ups was lifted from 1 September 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Syria

Customs tariff amendments. The Syrian authorities have issued amendments to the Customs tariff and the following BN numbers have been affected: 85.15, 92.11.

Details of an unofficial translation are available on request.

Inquiries from British exporters, which should specify the item(s) in which they are interested, may be addressed to OTAR ext. 475/7062.

Cameroon

Import regime. A recent decree of 17 June 1975 established that from the same date the customs duty of the common external tariff, the fiscal entry duty, import turnover tax, and the complementary tax (additional import tax) on the following imported products are *reinstated*:

Tariff no.	Description
10.06.01	Rice: in the husk or without husk still enclosed in the pericorp
10.06.11	Rice: whole grains put up for retail sale
10.06.10	Rice: whole grains – other
10.06.21	Rice: broken
11.01.01	Wheat flour

The equalisation tax on sugar introduced by the African and Madagascar Agreement on sugar of 27 June 1966 has been *suppressed* from 17 June 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/462/471/473.

Zaire

Importation of pharmaceuticals. With reference to *Trade and Industry* of 20 June 1975 and 8 August 1975, the Department of Health has now informed interested parties that with effect from 1 September the importation, stocking and distribution of pharmaceutical products is exclusively the responsibility of the DCMP. The Department makes it plain that:

a The stores and stocks of former importers are taken over by the DCMP;
b Privately owned pharmacies are taken over by the DCMP (in practice nationalised and approved persons appointed to run them);
c The ownership and activities of local manufacturers continues as before (although it seems clear that their finished stocks are affected by the measures); and
d Foreign pharmaceutical companies are still allowed to have representatives provided their sole function is to make their principals' products known locally.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/462/471/473.

Tunisia

Bottled sterilised milk. The *Tunisian Official Journal* of the 24 June has announced that the production tax on imported bottled sterilised milk under BN 04.01 has now been temporarily suspended, up to a limit of 6 million litres. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 461/459.

Ethiopia

Establishment of State Corporations. Information has been published in the *Negarit Gazeta* concerning the establishment of the Ethiopian Import/Export Corporation. The purposes of this corporation include:

1 to organise, manage and operate Government import-export undertakings;
2 to import foreign products which are of vital importance to the national economy and also those products considered necessary for local consumption;
3 to export such commodities and domestically manufactured goods as are considered appropriate for export;
4 to handle, clear, effect all customs formalities at the ports with respect to the goods it imports or exports as well as for goods to be imported by other public enterprises.

Regulations gazetted at the same time provide for the establishment of the following additional State corporations:

National Textile Corporation, Ethiopian Printing Corporation, Ethiopian Food Corporation, National Metal Works Corporation, Ethiopian Beverage Corporation, National Transport Corporation, Ethiopian Domestic Distribution Corporation, National Leather and Shoe Corporation, National Fibre Works Corporation.

The operation of these and any other State corporations that may be set up in the future is governed by the provisions of the 'Public Enterprises Regulations' which have also recently been issued. Overall responsibility is vested in the Minister of National Resources Development.

This legislation has already taken effect. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 684, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 12 September 1975, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1 Electric filament lamps classifiable under tariff subheading 85.20.90.10, 85.20.90.20, 85.20.95.15, and 85.20.95.20.
2 Starter motors classifiable under tariff subheading 85.08.40.10.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association. If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Excise Duty. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 29 August 1975:

R1643 Item 104.20. BN 22.09. The rate of excise duty on spirits (excluding wine spirits) is reduced by 380c per 100 litres of absolute alcohol.

REBATES, REFUNDS OF EXCISE DUTY

R1644 Item 609.04. The provision for a rebate of excise duty on spirits obtained by the distillation of any sugar cane product and entered for use in the manufacture of gin is no longer subject to a specific permit issued by the Secretary for Agricultural Economics and Marketing. The extent of rebate is also amended.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 471/472/473/462.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Ivory Coast

Importation of bicycle tyres and tubes. By an Arrete No. 0136/MC/DCE dated 13 June 1975 the importation into Ivory Coast of bicycle tyres and tubes of non Upper Volta origin is subject to prior authorisation for which an application must be addressed to the Ministère du Commerce (Direction du Commerce Exteriour), together with a supporting pro-forma invoice (in quadruplicate) indicating amongst other things, the number of items, the unitary fob price and the global cif Abidjan value.

Also the importation of tyres tariff code No. 40-11-51 and of tubes tariff code No. 40-11-31 of non Upper Volta origin, are both subject to a quota of 137,500 units per annum. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/462/471/473.

Nigeria

Customs tariff change. Legal Notice 62 of 1975 published in the Federal Republic of Nigeria *Gazette* of 18 August 1975 amends, with effect from that date, the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff (Consolidation) Decree 1973 as follows:

Tariff no.	Extent of amendment
25.23	Delete the rate of duty in the column 'Fiscal entry' and substitute 'Free'.

An explanatory note, which did not form part of the above Order but was intended to explain its purpose, stated that the Order abolishes import duty on cement. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/472/471/462.

Libya

New laws and regulations. Several important new laws have been published in Libya affecting the structure of the economy. The following summary covers the main points.

1 All private companies engaged in contracting work of a civil, mechanical or electrical nature and with a capital exceeding 30,000 Libyan Dinars must be restructured in the form of joint stock companies. The present proprietors and their families will be allowed to retain in total not more than 5 per cent of the whole capital or 5,000 dinars, whichever is less. The remaining capital must be divided into shares and offered to the public. Any shares not taken up by the public will be bought by the Government.

2 All companies whose only business is the import of private or commercial vehicles (excluding motor cycles and vehicles such as mobile cranes, mixers, etc., not used for transport) are nationalised forthwith. The nationalised companies will eventually issue shares for public participation.

3 All imports destined for the Government sector must henceforth be imported through a Government controlled company. Government departments, municipalities and state enterprises are forbidden to deal direct with foreign businessmen or with local private import agencies.

4 Certain items, as yet unspecified, may only be imported by Government controlled companies or by departments direct.

5 All commission agents must re-register and those who have resigned from Government or military service within the last four years must cease business unless they are operating in a field completely different from that in which they were involved while in Government service.

6 All land previously owned by the state and which has been sold and developed by the purchaser for purposes other than the building of his own private house is nationalised. All houses built with the help of loans from the banks and which are not occupied by the borrower for his own family are also nationalised.

Inquiries: CRE 5 tel. 01-215 5358.

Ghana

Customs tariff amendments. Notice was given in the *Ghana Gazette* of 15 July 1975 of the following amendments to the First, Second and Sixth Schedules to the Ghana Customs and Excise Tariff Regulations, 1973 (LI 838):

The First Schedule to the Customs and Excise Tariff Regulations, 1973 (LI 838) is hereby amended in Part A thereof, by the substitution for the particulars of tariff nos. 19.07/08, 37.06/07, 84.12, 84.15 and 87.02 of the following:

FIRST SCHEDULE
IMPORT DUTIES
A – General Rates

Tariff no.	Tariff description	Rate of duty
19.07/08	Bread, biscuits of all kinds, pastry, cakes and other bakers' wares whether or not containing cocoa in any proportion:	
	A Biscuits, cabin or ships', not containing added yeast or more then 5 per cent sugar.	50%
	B Other	50%
37.06/07	Cinematograph film, exposed and developed, negative or positive, whether or not incorporating sound track or of sound track only.	the hundred ft. C1.00
84.12	Air conditioning machines, self-contained, comprising a motor-driven fan and elements for changing the temperature and humidity of air:	
	A Not exceeding 3 hp. complete	50%
	B Other	50%
84.15	Refrigerators and refrigerating equipment (electrical and other):	
	A Domestic type, complete	50%
	B Other	Free
87.02	Motor vehicles for the transport of persons, goods or materials (including sports motor vehicles other than those of heading No. 87.09):	
	A Ambulances	Free
	B Dumpers	Free
	C Passenger cars including estate cars	50%
	D Buses and coaches	30%
	E Other: namely, jeeps, landrovers, kit cars, station wagons, trucks, lorries and vans	40%

The Second Schedule to the Customs and Excise Tariff Regulations, 1973 (LI 838) is hereby amended in Part B thereof, by the substitution for the particulars of tariff no. F.74 of the following:

SECOND SCHEDULE
B – General Exemptions

Tariff no.	Tariff description
F.74	Agricultural trailers: Agricultural trailers and identifiable parts thereof, and tyres (outer covers) suitable only for use on such trailers

The Sixth Schedule to the Customs and Excise Tariff Regulations, 1973 (LI 838) is hereby amended in Part A thereof, by the substitution for item 12 thereof of the following:

SIXTH SCHEDULE
IMPORT PROHIBITIONS

A – Absolute Prohibitions

12 Vehicles used:

(i) Any used passenger car or estate car falling within tariff no. 87.02C of more than three years old.

(ii) All other used motor vehicles falling within tariff nos. 87.02 and 87.03 of more than five years old.

The Customs and Excise Tariff (Amendment) Regulations, 1974 (LI 963) are hereby revoked.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/472/471/462.

Bangladesh

Shipping of goods. UK firms are strongly advised *not* to ship goods to Bangladesh if letters of credit or import licences have expired, even though assurances might have been given about accepting consignments against documents. Shipment against invalid letters of credit or import licences is likely to lead to long delays in payment. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5278.

Afghanistan

Import regulations. The Government of Afghanistan has announced a ban on the import of the following luxury goods:

Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, plywood, leather boxes and trunks, plastic flowers, calendars, chewing gum, travelling blankets and rugs, non-military firearms except air rifles, knives except used for dining, ashtrays, honey, macaroni, olives, pickles, jams, metal cabinets, metal trunks, handbags, decorative articles made of plastics, wood and glass, and fancy postcards. No further details available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475/7062.

Australia

Plywood: Temporary Assistance Authority report. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 14 March 1975, reported a request for temporary protection against the importation of plywood into Australia. The Temporary Assistance Authority has completed its inquiry and the Government has accepted the recommendation that no urgent action is necessary. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Non-adjustable spanners: Temporary Assistance Authority report. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 21 March 1975, reported a request for temporary protection against the importation of non-adjustable spanners into Australia. The Temporary Assistance Authority has completed its inquiry and the Government has accepted the recommendation that no urgent action is necessary. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Gloves, mittens or mitts of working type of leather and composition leather: Temporary Assistance Authority inquiry. A reference has been made to the Temporary Assistance Authority on gloves, mittens or mitts of working type of leather or composition leather (tariff item 42.03.1). The public inquiry was held in Canberra on 18 September 1975. UK trade associations or firms intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600 Australia, without delay through their accredited agent.

Evidence may be submitted either directly by the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian British Trade Association, 21 Tothill Street, London SW1 (tel. 01-799 7447). The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

ABS resins: temporary protection. The Department of Manufacturing Industry in Australia has received a request for temporary protection against imports of ABS resins. Requests for temporary protection are received by the Department of Manufacturing Industry and, after examination, are submitted to the Special Minister of State for consideration. The Special Minister of State may refer the request to a Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report. Any temporary protection which may be accorded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending Government consideration of the general question of protection for the local industry following inquiry and report by the Industries Assistance Commission.

Exporters should note that the Australian Prime Minister has made it clear that should the need for urgent action emerge from these inquiries goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement, will be subject to the terms of the action. Australian importers have been urged, therefore, to exercise caution in placing orders overseas and in entering into financial commitments on such orders, as special consideration may not be given to outstanding commitments should action be taken by the Government.

Evidence must be formally submitted at a public hearing, either by a nominated representative of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian British Trade Association.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia, without delay through their accredited agent, indicating the goods with which they are concerned, and the request they anticipate submitting. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

By-law admission of gas fired instantaneous water heaters: Industries Assistance Commission's recommendations. The Industries Assistance Commission has found that, as a general rule, by-law admission should not be accorded gas fired instantaneous water heaters on the grounds that suitably equivalent local products are readily available in Australia.

However, the Commission noted in the case of caravans that bottled gas provided an energy source in virtually all locations and helped to make a caravan a self-sufficient unit.

Accordingly, the Commission recommended that the general rule of no by-law should not apply to gas instantaneous water heaters designed to operate on liquefied petroleum gas or similar fuels and intended for permanent installation in caravans, small boats and similar mobile units. Inquiries: OTAR 468/469/401.

Fabricated asbestos: Industries Assistance Commission report. A notice in *Trade and Industry* on 14 March 1974, reported a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on whether assistance should be given to the production of fabricated asbestos in Australia.

The Commission has completed its inquiry and the Government has accepted the recommendation that a general rate of 15 per cent should apply to asbestos fabricated cord and other goods made from asbestos and compressed asbestos fibre sheet and gaskets. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Solomon Islands

Change of name. With the bringing into effect of the British Solomon Islands (Name of Territory) Order 1975, on 15 June 1975, the official name of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate changed to 'Solomon Islands'. Although the Solomon Islands are expected to be internally self-governing by the end of 1975 with independence following within 12 to 18 months, the Protectorate status of the territory remains, as yet, unchanged. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Japan

Food and drink additives. The Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare has published Ordinance No. 30 and Notification No. 238 which set out amendments to the Food Additives Regulations with effect from 25 July 1975. The definition of the word 'wine' includes not only grape wine but also perry and other fruit wines and provides for an increase in the permitted level of SO_2. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/7062.

Food additives: saccharin. The Japanese Ministry of Health and Welfare has published Ordinance No. 30 and Notification No. 238 which set out amendments to the Food Additive Regulations that with effect from 25 July 1975 the permissable level of saccharin has been raised. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/7062.

A library for exporters

Foreign trade statistics and other economic statistics from almost every country in the world are available for reference in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU. A modern well-equipped library of over 85,000 volumes, it has a reading room for visitors and provides a document-copying service. There are trade directories covering 150 countries, and an expanding collection of trade catalogues of overseas manufacturers. The library opens from 9 to 5.30, Mondays to Fridays (Tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368 or Telex No. 886143).

Canada

Proposed addition to division 24 of classes of foods for fat modified diets. The Canadian Department of Health and Welfare has issued Information Letter No. 446 having received representations for modification of the Food and Drug Regulations to permit claims for the chloesterol and fatty acid content of foods, and provide a means of product identification for consumers whose physicians recommend a fat reduced or fat modified diet.

Comments should be addressed to: Assistant Director-General, Foods Directorate, Health Protection Branch, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, by 20 September. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Forms of iron used as a mineral nutrient in foods. The Canadian Department of Health and Welfare, has issued Information Letter No. 445 which deals with the proposed revision of the Food and Drug Regulations. The Department recommend that the Food and Drug Regulations be amended to prohibit the use of sodium iron pyrophosphate as a source of iron in foods, and to require that the particle size of the reduced iron added to foods be such that 95 per cent is not greater than 10 microns in diameter.

Comments should be sent to: Assistant Director-General, Food Directorate, Health Protection Branch, Department of National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, Ontario KIA OL2, by 20 October 1975. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

Quebec Official Language Act: packaging and labelling regulations. Draft regulations under Quebec's Official Language Act, 1974 were published on 20 August 1975, covering the use of French in advertising, public signs and labelling.

In summary, the regulations provide that, in the Province of Quebec, all public signs, advertisements, catalogues and brochures, etc., must be in French or with a French version at least as prominent as any version in another language. The same applies to labels of products and directions and warranties. The requirements for public signs and advertisements will apply as soon as the regulations are approved.

The effective date for labelling of food products, other than alcoholic beverages, is 1 January 1976. For all other products, including alcoholic beverages, it is 1 January 1978. The principal exceptions are:

1 Firms' names and addresses, of which no French version exists.
2 Registered trade marks.
3 Commercial names of a chain of establishments widely used outside Quebec.
4 Expressions for which no French equivalent exists.
5 Proper names.
6 Names of countries or regions designated on products originating there.
7 Labels and directions of games played only in a language other than French.
8 Products manufactured outside Canada, which are in very limited use and for which no valid Canadian substitute exists.
9 Products exhibited at conventions or exhibitions, but not yet on sale in Quebec.
10 Industrial products shipped in bulk and destined to be incorporated in a finished product.
11 Catalogues and brochures whose recipients have requested in writing that they should be in a language other than French.

There is a period of 90 days until 18 November 1975 for objections to be lodged to the regulations before they come into force. A period of two years is permitted during which catalogues, brochures, etc., printed before the regulations come into force may be used, even if not in French. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

United States

Federal Trade Commission Improvement Act (the Magnusson-Moss Warranty Act). The Federal Trade Commission has issued a revised schedule of hearings on the implementation of this Act. Details are as follows:

15-19 September: Public hearings scheduled in Washington
22-26 September: Public hearings scheduled in Chicago
29 September-1 October: Public hearings scheduled in Los Angeles
2-3 October: Public hearings scheduled in San Francisco

Further details are available from CRE ext. 5397.

Escape clause petition on slide fasteners (zippers). The International Trade Commission have now announced the start of an investigation. The public hearings are to be held on 24 November and requests to appear are to be received by the ITC by 19 November 1975. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5629.

Vinyl chloride polymers. The *Federal Register* dated 3 September 1975, published proposed regulations by the Food and Drug Administration to restrict the uses of vinyl chloride polymers in contact with food. Comments are invited by the FDA and should be submitted by 3 November 1975. The proposal published 17 May 1973 in respect of Prior-Sanctioned Polyvinyl Chloride Resin is withdrawn and the rule making proceeding begun by that proposal terminated.

A copy of the text is available to British exporters from OTAR Section, Export Data Branch, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 456/457/7312.

Trinidad and Tobago

Import licensing: brooms, brushes, mops. The Trinidad and Tobago authorities in notice No. 2 of 1975 have amended the import licensing list to include a wider range of brooms, brushes and mops. Details are as follows:

BTN tariff heading	Description
96.01.00 96.02.00	Brooms, brushes and mops, of whatever size, construction and materials of manufacture, of the following types and uses: Household Yard Road-sweeping Industrial (excluding brushes of a kind used as parts of machines and special types prescribed by manufacturers for use on specific machinery and equipment) Paint (including varnish and lacquer), distemper and plastering Twisted wire (ie bottle, lavatory and other) Lavatory (not twisted wire) whether imported as individual brushes or with containers as sets Shoe Clothes Scouring, scrubbing and laundry Toothbrushes Mops, all types

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Barbados

Import licences. SI No. 152 of the Miscellaneous Controls Regulations 1975, amends the list of items requiring import licences as follows:

1 Goods under BN heading 62.03 have been deleted and no licences will be required.

2 Some commodities falling within BN headings 11.02, 16.04, 27.12 and 42.02 have been inserted. Licences will be required before importation can be effected.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Jamaica

Customs, excise and consumption duty amendments. The Jamaican authorities by a resolution made on 8 July 1975 have announced a remission of customs, excise and consumption duties on the raw materials and components used solely in the manufacture of beverage coolers, cassette recorders, gramophones, window air conditioning units and dry cell batteries.

Consumption duty has been imposed on the following finished products, beverage coolers 10 per cent; gramophones and cassette recorders 15 per cent.

The import duty on sound recording equipment ex BN 92.11 and ex BN 92.13 has been reduced from 45 per cent general and 35 per

cent preferential to 7½ per cent general and 5 per cent preferential when imported solely for industrial use in manufacturing gramophone records or other sound recordings.

Inquiries about this notice should be directed to OTAR ext. 7312.

New import controls. The Government has announced that the following measures have been introduced. Further developments are promised in October.

Price control: The extension of price controls and a more intensive search for cheaper sources of all imports.

Foreign exchange: Government intention to keep foreign exchange spending in the current financial year to a ceiling of $900 million. New exchange control guidelines have been issued.

Capital goods: Cancellation of all import licences for capital goods though they may be revalidated in cases where the buyer can establish:

(i) that the equipment is required in an industry where there is no unused capacity;

(ii) there is an irrevocable commitment to take delivery.

Capital goods include but are not limited to the following commodities: rubber manufactures nes, iron and steel, manufactures of metal nes, machinery other than electric, professional scientific and controlling instruments, photographic and optical goods, watches and clocks, wood, lumber, and cork, wood and cork manufactures (excluding furniture), paper, paperboard, and manufactures thereof, crude fertiliser and crude minerals, dying, tanning and colouring materials, electrical machinery, apparatus and appliances, sanitary, plumbing, heating and lighting fixtures and fittings, non-metallic mineral manufactures, miscellaneous manufactured articles nes, miscellaneous.

A list of items tabulated under each of the above headings is available upon request.

Prohibitions: Imports of steam rollers, earth moving equipment, cranes and, with rare exceptions, computers, are prohibited for 18 months.

Inquiries from British exporters about this notice should be addressed to OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Tariff amendments. The *Jamaica Gazette Supplement* No. 71 of 1 August 1975, publishes amendments on the Customs tariff affecting the following types of goods:

1 Meat and meat products; fish and shellfish, including aquarium. BN Nos. 02.01; 02.02; 02.04; 03.01; 03.03
2 Nuts, various BN 08.05
3 Rum BN 22.09
4 Petroleum products, various BN 27.14
5 Wadding, gauze, etc. BN 30.04
6 Mineral or chemical fertilisers BN 31.02
7 Essential oils group 33.02; 33.03; and 33.05
8 Chemical products within BN 38.19
9 Travel goods, various within BN 42.02
10 Wood products within BN 44.16; 44.19; 44.23 and 44.27
11 Yarn of various products, within BN 50.04; 50.05; and 50.06
12 Waste, rags and scraps, of textile and other products, BN 63.02
13 Hair and products of, BN 67.03
14 Precious metals and goldsmith and silversmith articles BN 71.09; 71.10; 71.11; 71.12; and 71.15
15 Boilers, etc. of BN 73.37
16 Structural equipment of aluminium BN 76.08
17 Vending machines BN 84.58
18 Electrical telephone and telegraphic and other apparatus BN 85.13; 85.14; and 85.19

Jamaica Gazette Supplement No. 69 of 28 July 1975, amends the Consumption Duties levied on motor spirits under BN 27.10 as follows:

ex 27.10		Motor spirit	
	(i)	With an octane rating of not less than 93 determined on the Research Method	per gall. 38,8157 cents
	(ii)	Other	per gall. 37.3216 cents.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Venezuela

Tariff amendments. A Resolution published in the *Gaceta Oficial* of Venezuela of 22 August 1975, amends the import tariff, by adding the headings, with duties, shown in the next column:

Tariff no.	Description	Duty (*ad valorem* cif)	Requirement
09.09.89.00	Other		
01	Juniper seeds	5%	Health Certificate from country of origin
99	Other	5%	Health Certificate from country of origin
	(Replacing sub-heading 09.09.04.00 – Juniper seeds)		
39.03.21.02	Monofilaments, tubes, bars, rods and profile shapes of regenerated cellulose	5%	—
87.06.89.04	Air-conditioning apparatus for vehicles	1%	Licence from the Ministerio de Fomento

There is no further information. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Health certificates. A Resolution of the Ministerios de Hacienda and de Agricultura y Cria, published in the *Gaceta Oficial* of 22 August 1975, imposes new requirements as regards Health Certificates from the country of origin, health permits from the Ministerio de Agricultura y Cria, licences from the Ministerio de Fomento, and restricts the import of some goods to the Venezuelan Government. The headings affected by one or other of these restrictions are as follows:

Chapters 01 and 02, some headings in Chapters 03, 04, 05, 06, 07, 08, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 24, 27, 30, 31, 35, 38, headings 44.01.00.00 to 44.23.00.99 (except 44.02.00.00), headings 55.01.00.00 and 57.04.01.00.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Brazil

Duty increases. Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,507, increased the import duty on melamine, of tariff heading 29.35.29.00, to 45 per cent when used exclusively for agricultural purchases.

No further information is available at present.

Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,508 increased the import duty on certain chemicals for agricultural use only as follows:

Tariff heading	Goods	Import duty
29.06.99.00	Nonyl phenol	35%
34.02.01.99 34.02.99.00	Ethoxylated nonyl phenol	35%
34.04.01.99	Solid polyethylene glycol	50%
38.19.26.00	Liquid polyethylene glycol	50%

No further information available at present.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Customs Policy Resolution No. 2,509 increased the import duty on polyamide and superpolyamide resins, produced by the reaction of dimerized and/or trimerized fatty acids with polyamines of the ethylene series, of tariff headings 39.01.05.00 and 39.02.06.00, from 30 per cent to 55 per cent. No further information is available at present.

Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,515 increased the import duty on agricultural machinery, of tariff headings 84.25.01.01 and 84.25.01.99, from 7 per cent to 25 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,511 published in the *Diario Oficial* of 23 July 1975, exempted a quota of 90,500 tonnes of aromatic residues, under tariff heading 27.07.10.00, from import duties.

There is no further information available at present.

Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,518, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 29 July 1975, exempted a quota of 24,000 tonnes of raw jute and similar fibres under tariff headings 57.03.01.01 and 57.03.01.99 but excluding Kenaf or Thailand jute, from import duty.

Customs Policy Council No. 2,516, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 28 July 1975 exempted from import duty for a period of six months, Coggins antigen, of tariff heading 30.02.99.00. The antigen, consisting of antigen, standard serum and dilutant, should be for the detection of infectious eguine anasmia by injection and will be exempted on the declaration of the appropriate department of the Ministerio da Agricultura.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Duty reduction on primary aluminium and its alloys. Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,519 publishes in the *Diario Oficial* of 29 July 1975, reduced the import duty on a quota of 15,000 tonnes of primary aluminium and its alloys, under tariff headings 76.01.02.00, from 37 per cent to 8 per cent.

Temporary duty reductions and reference prices for animal fats. Customs Policy Council Resolutions Nos. 2,513 and 2,517, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 28 July 1975 reduced, temporarily, the import duties on, and established reference prices for, animal fats of heading 15.02.00.00. The changes are as follows:

The import duty on goods of headings 15.02.01.01, 15.02.02.01 and 15.02.03.01 and melted fats of headings 15.02.01.02, 15.02.02.02 and 15.02.03.02 is reduced to 25 per cent for a period of six months, lapsing on 28 January 1976.

Reference prices for melted animal fats of headings 15.02.01.02, 15.01.02.02 and 15.02.03.02 are established, of US $435.00 per tonne cif.

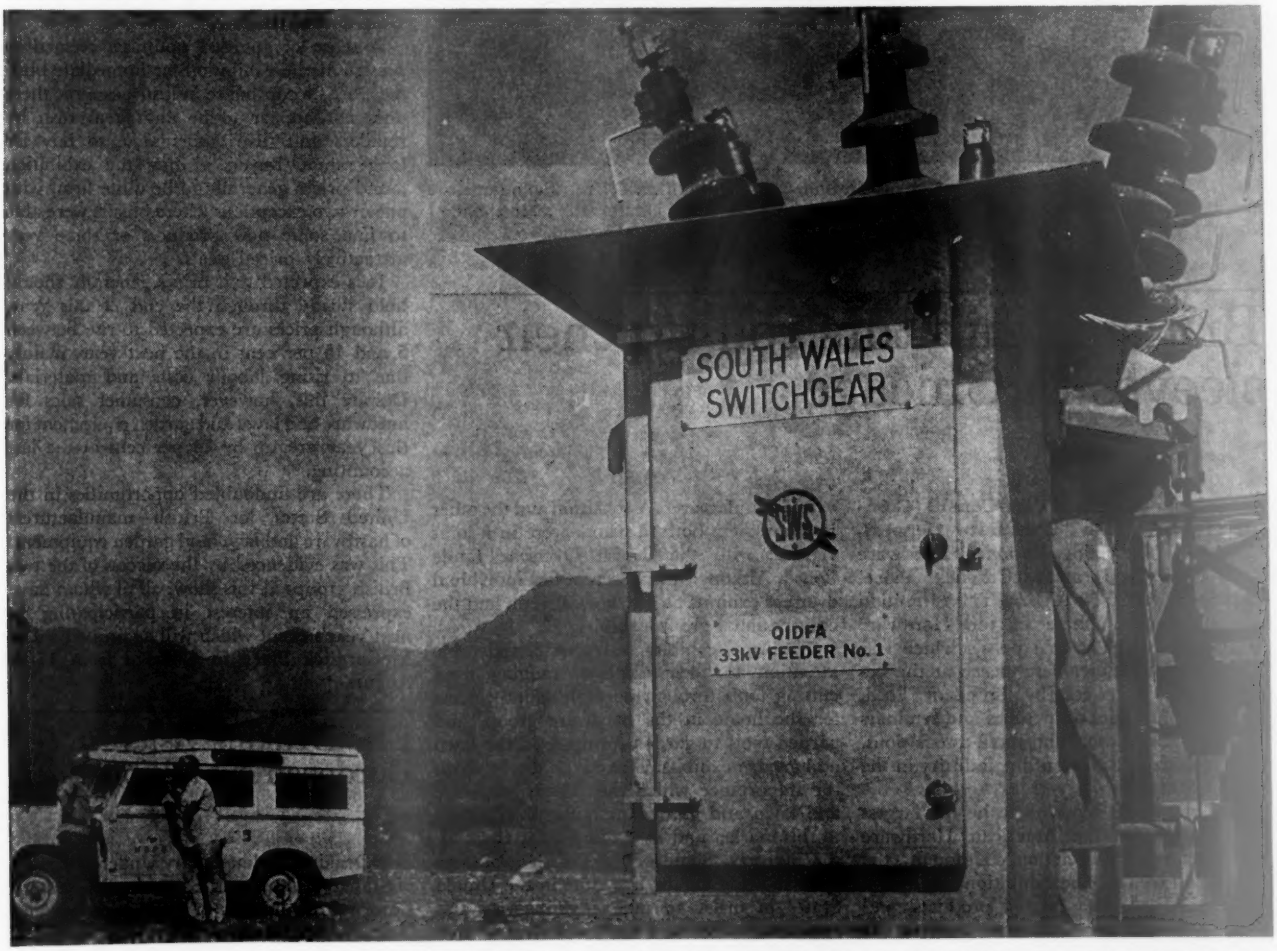
Inquiries: OTAR 476/474.

Reference prices. Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,510 imposed a reference price on tenor flutes (flautas doces), of tariff heading 92.05.07.00, of US $2.50 per unit – cif.

Customs Policy Council Resolution No. 2,512 imposed a reference price on phthalic plasticisers, of tariff heading 29.15.01.99 of US $1,170.00 per tonne cif.

No further information is available at present.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.



The Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering Ltd. 33kV electrification contract for the east coast of the United Arab Emirates, worth £1.4 million, is nearing completion. The project involved building and commissioning Qidfa power station and also the erection of overhead cabling and sub-stations along some 90km of coastline. The power station will serve the coastal region with an initial output of 3MVA, generated by two Mirrlees Blackstone E type twin-bank generating sets. The engines were constructed at the Stamford works of Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd. and the ac generators at the Loughborough factory of Brush Electrical Machines Ltd. Both Mirrlees Blackstone and Brush Electrical Machines are Hawker Siddeley companies. Much of the equipment for the project was manufactured by other Hawker Siddeley companies, including the 33kV oil circuit breaker seen pictured here from South Wales Switchgear Ltd., Blackwood, Gwent.

Exhibitions and Fairs

Mr. H. Clare White (centre), Deputy Consul-General, Chicago, with Mr. C. T. Baldwin (left), export manager of Christonette, and Mr. Kim Kothari, of J. D. Marshall International Inc., on one of the British joint venture stands at the National Hardware Show in Chicago.

British exhibitors roll up their sleeves in Chicago

From Harry D. Hall, Vice-Consul (Commercial), British Consulate General, Chicago: The 30th National Hardware Show was held at McCormick Place, Chicago, from 26-28 August. The exhibition was the second phase of the Hardware Industry Week. The first phase, which was launched with a breakfast speech at the beginning of the week by President Ford, consisted of a series of speeches and seminars hosted by distributors and retail associations, dealing with all aspects of the industry in the United States.

This show was reported to be the largest ever staged by the American Hardware Manufacturers Association, although the shortest on record. The exhibition was in two parts, hardware and related products, and lawn and garden outdoor equipment. It attracted nearly 35,000 visitors from all parts of the United States and overseas, who were able to view products displayed by 1,500 exhibititors.

The British industry was well represented, with 23 exhibitiors split into two groups. One group was sponsored by the British Hardware Manufacturers Association and the other by Gardenex, both of whom were in a joint venture with the British Overseas Trade Board. Although there were a few individual overseas exhibits at the show, Britain had the only national group exhibits.

The British exhibitors attracted considerable attention to their displays, ranging from cutting tools through portable hand-welders for the home in the hardware group, and garden tools to garden furniture in the lawn and garden exhibits. There is no doubt about the importance which the British hardware and lawn and garden manufacturers attach to this market and its leading trade show for the industry. Some of the British exhibitors were showing for the first time in the United States in order to take advantage of this expanding market. Others are already well entrenched, with excellent distribution arrangements.

The British exhibitors were in an aggressive mood, and they rolled up their sleeves from the minute the show opened for a most intensive two and a half day show, with a constant stream of visitors on their stands until the show closed. At the end of the event they had either written up business or were able to set up distribution for their products. Altogether business valued at approximately $2 million, was written up during the two and a half days, with undoubtedly more to follow. Some of the exhibitors had sold off all the products on their stands by the second day and a total of nearly 700 firm inquiries was received.

Some of the exhibitors planned to stay on in the United States, to follow up leads and develop them into firm business. Interestingly enough, some of the British exhibitors were also able to obtain business and appoint agents in other overseas markets, notably Japan, Canada, West Germany, Australia and South America. The show attracted a great many overseas visitors, which further demonstrates the importance of the American show and the market potential.

Guarded optimism

A sense of guarded optimism seemed to prevail at the exhibition for immediate business, but, according to industry experts, there does not appear to be any great rush by retailers and distributors alike to buy for long range. Buyers visiting the exhibition found prices generally to be quite firm, with one or two exceptions where buyers were able to find some new products or some very attractively priced deals.

It is expected that prices generally should hold steady through the end of this year, although prices are expected to rise between 5 and 15 per cent in the next year, mainly due to rising labour costs and materials. Despite this, however, consumer sales for hardware and lawn and garden equipment for this year are up by 14 per cent at the last accounting.

There are undoubted opportunities in the United States for British manufacturers of hardware and lawn and garden equipment. This was evidenced by the success of the two British groups at this show, all of whom have expressed an interest in participating in next year's event which will again be held at McCormick Place in Chicago from 17-19 August.

Eric Deakins visits European exhibitions

Eric Deakins, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade, visited two major Eastern European exhibitions in Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria this month.

On 6 September he visited the British Pavilion at the International Trade Fair, Plovdiv, Bulgaria, which ran from 3-10 September and on 11 September he visited the UK firms at the International Engineering Fair in Brno, Czechoslovakia, which ended on 18 September.

Shah of Iran visits British companies at Tehran trade fair

From P. Beckingham, British Overseas Trade Board Publicity Unit in Tehran: The Shah of Iran opened the Third International Trade Fair here in Tehran on Saturday, 13 September. With the Shah at the opening ceremony were the Duke and Duchess of Kent, who are staying in Iran for a week as guests of the Shah.

The ceremonies began with the launching of hundreds of balloons, each with one of the flags of the 44 participating nations attached, while Iranian and foreign dignitaries, and 44 girls dressed in the national costume of each country looked on. The UK was represented by Mrs. Daphne Laycock, from the British Embassy, who wore the costume of a Tower of London Beefeater.

After the official opening of the fair, the Duke and Duchess, together with HM Ambassador to Iran Sir Anthony Parsons, welcomed the Shah to the British Pavilion, organised by the British Overseas Trade Board. During his tour of the pavilion the Shah visited the stands of the 600 Group Ltd., Albright and Wilson Ltd., British Steel Corporation, General Electric Co. Ltd., Lucas Industries Ltd., and Rolls Royce Motors Ltd.

Before he left the pavilion the Shah was shown the impressive centrepiece exhibit which has been mounted by the BOTB for the fair, and features examples of technological developments in UK engineering, including a brilliantly illuminated Concorde engine, a sleek Lotus Elite sports car and models of fluidyne engines and a thermo-mechanical generator from the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell.

This year there has been a dramatic increase in the number of UK firms participating at the fair. Over 200 companies – compared with approximately 40 last year – are represented, and the range of goods they are marketing is diverse – mobile cranes, X-ray equipment, electronic components, engineers small tools, refrigerators, children's toys and a wide range of capital goods.

The British Pavilion is in two large halls and an outdoor site, and occupies an area of over 10,000m². It is the largest promotional event sponsored by the BOTB this year. In addition a number of British companies are exhibiting indepently of the BOTB, including Rolls Royce (1971) Ltd., Vickers Ltd., and the British Aircraft Corporation Ltd. This year the British group is by far the largest at the fair, which continues until Wednesday, 24 September.

Frau Annemarie Renger, President of the Bundestag, leaving the GEC stand at the International Radio and Television Exhibition, which took place in Berlin from 29 August to 7 September. GEC (Radio and Television) Ltd., one of 10 British firms which took part in this important event, was exhibiting outside the UK for the first time. The exhibition is held every two years normally in different German cities. Berlin considers itself fortunate that two consecutive exhibitions have taken place there, and it is very likely that the 1977 exhibition will also be held in Berlin. One of the highlights of this year's event was GEC's Teletext equipment (used by the BBC under the name Ceefax and by the IBA as Oracle), which received very good coverage in the German press. **[From H. A. Payne, Vice-Consul (Commercial), British Consulate-General, Berlin.]**

UK microwave industry impresses at Hamburg

From A. P. Ceurvorst, Consul (Commercial), British Consulate General, Hamburg: Eighty-three direct exhibitors took part in Microwave '75, held in the Congress Centre, Hamburg, from 1-4 September, and the products of a further 70 companies were displayed on their representatives' stands.

Of the 83 direct exhibitors, 21 were British companies in a joint venture sponsored by the Electronic Engineering Association and supported by the British Overseas Trade Board. The size of the joint venture and its predominant position in the centre of the exhibition area, left visitors and participants alike in no doubt as to the strength and importance of the British microwave industry, which was exhibiting a wide range of highly sophisticated items, from tiny precision made components, to complete systems.

The exhibition was held in conjunction with the 5th European Microwave Conference, which was attended by over 800 delegates from all over the world. The presence of the delegates and the screening of visitors by the organisers ensured the quality of inquiries remained high throughout the exhibition. Indeed nearly all British companies were delighted with the level of serious inquiries, which now have to be followed up.

Microwave '76 is to be held in Rome.

Mr. G. T. Seddon (left), managing director of Joshua Kershaw and Sons Ltd., of Bolton, Lancashire and Herr Weil (right), the firm's German and Austrian representative, discussing the firm's products with an Austrian customer at the International Leather Week which took place in Paris from 6-9 September.

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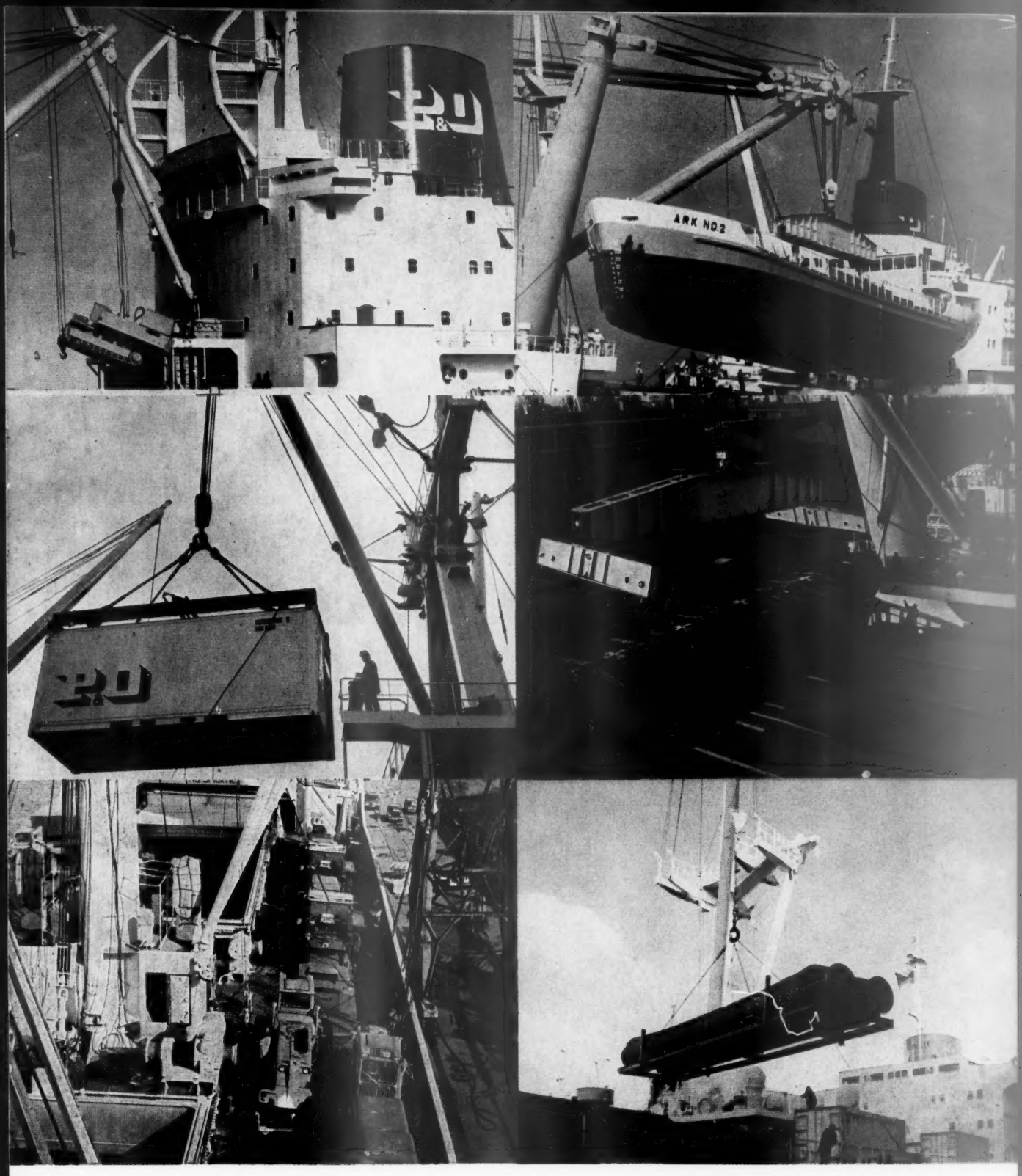

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Missions and Tours

Jim Rooke, chief executive of the British Overseas Trade Board, hosting the reception at the Portman Hotel, London on 4 September for Dr. I. O. Nsolo, deputy chief medical adviser to the Nigerian Government (left), and Mr. A. Fajobi, central planning officer, Nigerian Ministry of Economic Development and Reconstruction. Following the announcement of Nigeria's £500 million health redevelopment programme, the Overseas Vistiors' Bureau of the BOTB invited Dr. Nsolo and three colleagues to visit Britain for discussions with senior Department of Health officials.

UK building industry mission to Nigeria

A 21-man mission, sponsored by the British Overseas Trade Board and the Building Materials Export Group, left on 14 September for a two-week visit to Nigeria. The mission, led by Robert Taylor, Member of Parliament for Croydon North West and sales director of G. and S. Allgood Ltd., will visit Lagos, Port Harcourt and Kano, returning to the UK on 1 October.

The members represent a cross-section of the UK building industry, and the products presented include pipes and fittings, concrete treatments and bituminous products protective and decorative coatings, and components and fittings – electric lamps, doors, sanitary ware in plastics, and stainless steel sinks.

The materials manufacturers will be accompanied by a number of architects and consulting engineers, planning consultants, structural engineers, and public works engineers.

This is the second mission arranged by the BMEG to Nigeria. The first was in 1970, when 10 companies made a tour lasting three weeks.

Left to right: John L. Hobbs, leader of a 15-man trade mission to Moscow from 4-14 October, Norman L. Mould of Dunlop Angus Industrial Group, and Haydn N. Sculthorpe of the Torrington Company Ltd., at a briefing meeting earlier this month at Newcastle upon Tyne. Twelve major North of England companies will be represented on this mission, which is supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, and sponsored by the North of England Development Council. In the background is a replica of a photographic display destined for the window of the British Embassy's Commercial Department in Moscow. It will form part of the publicity campaign which is being mounted in support of the mission.

Thai state railway planners look at British equipment

At the invitation of the British Overseas Trade Board, three senior railway officials from Thailand are visiting Britain from 8-20 September.

The visitors, Prachoom Annavadhana, chief civil engineer, Somsak Paphavasit, chief mechanical engineer, and Phipat Lusanand, superintending engineer, wish to study British equipment and techniques. They will visit firms in 14 industrial areas and will see the Railway Industries Association, Transmark and British Rail. They will also visit the British Rail Technical Centre, Derby, and ride on the high speed train from Bath.

The Thai State Railways propose to spend £40 million on their next five-year plan, which begins in 1976.

Help with trade in the Middle East

A booklet containing classified lists of the 425 members of the Middle East Association has just been published. It is designed to help businessmen identify quickly and accurately how or with whom their Middle East business may best be pursued.

The membership of the association, which has been in existence for 14 years, covers a wide range of trades and professions involved in commerce and industry in the Middle East.

For further details, contact Mr. M. A. H. Reinhold, the Middle East Association, Bury House, 33 Bury Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6AX, tel. 01-839 2137.

BOTB News

Sir Frederick Catherwood, Chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, speaking at a press conference in London, following his fact-finding tour of the most important economic centres in Europe. Sir Frederick's tour, his first since he was appointed as BOTB's Chairman in May this year, took in West Germany, Austria, East Germany, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Sir Frederick announced at the press conference that he is planning a series of export seminars in the regions; Sheffield and Bristol, he said, will be the first venues.

Over 100 British companies to exhibit in Malaysia

Already 112 companies have made firm bookings – and 85 per cent of the space has been taken – for the British Technology for Malaysia Exhibition to be held in Kuala Lumpur from 5-12 April next year. The British Overseas Trade Board is sponsoring this all-British exhibition.

'Malaysia's continued success in broadening and developing her industrial capacity,' said Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, recently, 'will ensure that the country continues to offer growing opportunities for overseas suppliers.'

There is still an opportunity for British firms to have space at the exhibition. Although not an exhaustive list, it is considered that the greatest potential exists for firms in the following 11 sectors: construction plant and equipment; plastics working machinery; transport; machine tools; forestry equipment; wood processing and woodworking machinery; medical, hospital and laboratory scientific equipment; food processing machinery; marine equipment including safety equipment; electric generating, transmission and distribution equipment; and electronic and telecommunications equipment.

Inquiries

The British Technology for Malaysia Exhibition is being organised on behalf of the British Overseas Trade Board by Industrial and Trade Fairs International Ltd. and inquiries regarding stand space should be made to: Ralph Saunders, Industrial and Trade Fairs Ltd., Radcliffe House, Blenheim Court, Solihull B91 2BG, tel. 021-705 6707.

UK trade promotions in North America

Three British export promotions will be supported by the British Overseas Trade Board in North America this month.

Fashion fair

A joint venture display organised by the BOTB and sponsored by the Knitting Export Council will feature at the 6th bi-annual European Fashion Fair, from 28 September to 1 October. This fast-growing fair is an important event in the American fashion calender. The official British group will comprise 22 firms, a significantly larger participation that the first joint venture at this event in Spring 1975. A comprehensive selection of British day, evening, leisure clothes and knitwear will be on show.

Tobacco products

Before this, from 17-27 September, the BOTB has arranged, with the co-operation of the Briar Pipe Trade Association, a mission of 11 manufacturers of tobacco products and smokers' requisites to major cities in the USA and Canada. The main object of the mission will be to explore opportunities for increasing exports to these countries and they will attend the Tobacco Dealers of America Convention in New York. Their itinerary will include Toronto, Montreal, Los Angeles, Boston and San Francisco.

Office equipment

From 26-28 September, a British joint venture group comprising nine companies will exhibit at the National Office Products Association Annual Convention and Exhibit in the McCormick Place, Chicago, which is attended by dealers from all over the United States. The group is being organised by the BOTB and sponsored by the Business Equipment Trade Association. Among the range of office furniture and equipment to be displayed will be addressing machines and an executive armchair, which are new to the American market.

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European Community

Commission unveils preliminary draft budget for 1976

Total allocations in the Communities' preliminary draft budget for 1976 amount to 8,019 million units of account (approximately £3,341 million). The Commission's preliminary draft, which will be examined by the Budget Council on 22 September, proposes a level of expenditure 32.3 per cent higher than in 1975.

Based on estimates

The preliminary draft budget is based on estimates drawn up by each of the institutions of the Community – the Commission, the Council, the Court of Justice and the European Assembly. After consideration by the Council later this month, the *draft budget*, as it is then called, will be forwarded to the European Assembly in October.

The Commission budget accounts for 7,892 million units of account, or about 98 per cent of the total expenditure proposed. As in previous years, the lion's share of the budget has been allocated to the agricultural sector, although agriculture's share of the total is proportionately less than in 1975. The Commission have proposed provision of 450 mua for the Regional Development Fund and 501 mua for the European Social Fund.

Community revenues are derived from two sources – on the one hand, direct financial payments by Member States based on Member States' share of Community GNP, and, on the other, the Communities' 'own resources' (customs duties and agricultural levies). Ten per cent of the 'own resources' revenue is refunded to Member States to cover the costs of collection.

Tony Benn visits four European capitals

Tony Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, has been paying official visits to four European capitals this week – from 15 to 19 September. He has been visiting Paris, Rome, Bonn and Brussels for talks with ministers and officials.

In Paris, Mr. Benn had talks with M. Michel D'Ornano, Minister for Industry, while in Rome he met Signor Carlo Donat Cattin, Minister for Industry and Commerce.

Mr. Benn was hoping to have meetings in Bonn on Thursday with Dr. Hans Friderichs, Minister for the Economy, and Herr Hans Matthofer, Minister for Research and Technology. Today (Friday) in Brussels Mr. Benn was due to meet M. Henri Simonet, EEC Energy Commissioner, and M. Fernand Herman, Belgium's Minister of Economic Affairs, before returning to London.

This is Mr. Benn's first official visit to the four countries since his appointment as Secretary of State for Energy on 10 June. He attended the meeting of EEC Energy Ministers in Luxembourg on 26 June.

Speaking on behalf of the Community, the Italian President of the Council, Mariano Rumor, presented the Nine's joint position on the question of raw materials and development co-operation to the seventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York on 1 September. He emphasised the Community's aim for the achievement of real progress towards a more balanced and equitable pattern of international economic relations, which would involve strengthening the position of the developing countries. Final reports of the outcome of this UN session are expected this week.

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Commission's 'serious view' of US car dumping allegations

Following latest United States moves to conduct a full-scale investigation into car dumping by foreign car producers, the EEC Commission issued a statement expressing 'the serious view which it takes of this threat to a traditional and important Community market in the United States'.

Referring to the 'preliminary determination' announced by the US International Trade Commission 'to the effect that imports of automobiles into the United States may be damaging the United States automobile industry. The Commission said, 'this means that the United States Treasury's investigation into alleged dumping of European automobiles will continue, with the harrassment, legal expense and possible disruption to trade which this implies.'

The United States Treasury announced that it was instigating a formal investigation into the alleged dumping of imported cars on 3 August this year. At the same time it asked the ITC to conduct a preliminary inquiry to find out whether these car imports had caused, or might cause, harm to the United States industry.

In the Commission's view, 'imports into the United States of automobiles from the Community are reasonably priced and are manifestly not causing, or threatening to cause, material injury to the United States automobile industry'. The statement went on, 'the initiation and pursuit of the United States Treasury's investigation into anti-dumping, as far as Community automobiles are concerned, consequently appears to the Commission to be inconsistent with the GATT anti-dumping code, to which the United States is a party'.

Publications of the European Community

Listed below are official publications on European Communities' matters issued during the period 2 August-9 September 1975. All can be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Orders, quoting the Standard Book Number, which is given in brackets after each title in the list, should be sent to HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. The price inclusive of postage is given in parenthesis at the end of each reference.

Commission of the European Communities

Administration of the Customs Union. List of Customs Offices authorised to deal with Community transit operations. Amendment No. 3 – 1 October 1974. [11 934843 8]. 358 pp. Loose leaf. £2.20 (£2.66).

Council of the European Communities. ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé signed on 28 February 1975 and related documents. [11 934860 8]. 357 pp. £1.45 (£1.69).

Community Law. Extract from the 'Eighth General Report on the Activities of the European Communities in 1974'. [11 934846 2]. 37 pp. £1.40 (£1.48).

Statistical Office of the European Communities

Basic Statistics of the Community. Comparison with some European countries, Canada, the United States of America, Japan, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. 1973-74. 13th Edition. [11 934845 4]. 224 pp. 83p (94p).

EEC information – inquiry points at Customs and Excise headquarters

General inquiries on EEC matters which are the concern of HM Customs and Excise may be made to the following telephone extensions:
HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE. Tel: 01-626 1515

		Extn.
Community Transit	International Customs Division D —Branch 1 and 2	2263/2561
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, Greece and Turkey	International Customs Division D —Branch 2	2565
EEC Mediterranean Agreements, except Greece and Turkey, Anglo-Danish Free Trade Agreement	International Customs Division E —Branch 2	2310
Anglo-Irish Free Trade Agreement, Channel Islands, Isle of Man	International Customs Division E —Branch 1	2276
Compensatory levies	International Customs Division G —Branch 3	2206/2307
European Communities—general inquiries	International Customs Division D	2478
	—Branch 4	2431
EEC Free Trade Agreements with EFTA countries	International Customs Division E —Branch 4	2385/2165
Copies of public notices and customs forms on EEC matters	Outfield Directorate Division D —Branch 3	3079

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Reimposition of Community duties on certain textile imports from Portugal

With effect from 16 September 1975, an Order has been made increasing duties on imports of certain textiles originating in Portugal (as provided for in an EEC Regulation, published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L237, 9 September 1975, made under the terms of the EEC's agreement with Portugal – Protocol 1).

The Order, the Import Duties (General) (No. 4) Order 1975 (SI 1975/1492) affects woven fabrics of man-made fibres (discontinuous or waste) falling within tariff heading 56.07. The rates of duty from 16 September 1975 until 31 December 1975 on these goods, if previously eligible for duty-free entry, will be 9 per cent for goods falling within tariff heading 56.07 A I, and 9.6 per cent for goods falling within tariff headings 56.07 A II and B. For goods originating in Portugal not hitherto eligible for duty free entry the full rates of duty will be charged.

General inquiries about this notice should be addressed to General Division, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 5491.

Copies of the Order will be available from HM Stationery Office; copies of the agreement between the EEC and Portugal signed on 22 July 1972 (Cmnd. 5164), and of the *Official Journal*, may also be obtained from HMSO.

New EC Legislation

Applications for copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* containing the legislation referred to should be made to HMSO and not to the inquiry points given in the notices.

The legislation listed below has been published in the 'Official Journal of the European Communities' as indicated against each item. The 'Official Journal' is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other Member States' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 4174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference points given at the end of the item.

COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY. The texts of the following Regulation and Directive which affect agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Seeds and plants. Directive 75/502/EEC limiting the marketing of seed of smooth-stalk meadowgrass (*Poa pratensis L.*) to seed which has been officially certified 'basic seed' or 'certified seed' (*Official Journal* L228, 29 August 1975).

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 2249/75 amending for the first time Regulation (EEC) 2042/75 on special detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences for cereals and rice (*Official Journal* L229, 30 August 1975).

IMPORTS FROM NON-MEMBER STATES. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L228, 29 August 1975, contains the texts of the following Decisions:

Decision 75/495/EEC authorising France not to apply Community treatment to natural honey falling within heading No. 04.06 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Czechoslovakia and in free circulation in the other Member States.

Decision 75/496/EEC authorising Italy not to apply Community treatment to footwear with outer soles of leather or composition leather; footwear (other than footwear falling within heading No. 64.01) with outer soles of rubber or artificial plastic material falling within heading No. 64.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in China and in free circulation in the other Member States.

RULES OF COMPETITION. The *Official Journal of the European Communities* C198 of 29 August 1975, contains a notice concerning the notification to the European Commission of an agreement between Bayer AG of Leverkusen and Gist-Brocades NV of Delft relating to the manufacture and supply of raw penicillin and 6-amino-penicillanic-acid (6-APA). The notification was made with a view to obtaining exemption under Article 85(3) of the Treaty of Rome.

The Commission intends to take a favourable decision on the agreement, subject to the attachment of conditions and a limitation of its duration. Before doing so it invites any interested third parties to send their comments within six weeks from 29 August 1975, quoting reference number IV/27.073, to the following address:

Commission of the European Communities
Directorate-General for Competition
Directorate for Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions
Avenue des Nerviens 9
B 1049 Brussels
Belgium.

Further information: Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, Fair Trading Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel. 01-215 5092).

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,365	9,223	2,029	2,090	series in £ million				series in £ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	439	325	68	−30	735	−12	747
1971	101	103	100	98	104	76	−148	52	−10	1,048	282	766
1972	104	109	106	86	117	−54	−175	48	−11	128	−690	818
1973	110	114	110	92	125	706	396	102	334	−835	−2,295	1,460
1974	110	114	108	103	113	288	666	81	−68	−3,668	−5,234	1,566
1972 2nd qtr.	104	108	106	85	118	−31	−81	1	33	138	−64	202
3rd qtr.	104	110	106	83	115	−7	−35	6	−16	−89	−280	191
4th qtr.	107	111	108	84	124	18	13	24	−10	−11	−213	202
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	112	90	130	279	166	37	51	−150	−354	204
2nd qtr.	109	112	107	87	118	191	88	3	185	−78	−403	325
3rd qtr.	110	114	111	96	120	102	46	29	47	−198	−564	366
4th qtr.	110	114	111	94	132	134	96	32	51	−409	−974	565
1974 1st qtr.	106	113	112	102	112	−249	−31	18	−59	−849	−1,275	426
2nd qtr.	110	112	105	101	110	193	191	43	27	−918	−1,307	389
3rd qtr.	112	114	106	102	119	240	368	3	−14	−830	−1,206	376
4th qtr.	110	116	107	106	113	104	139	17	−22	−1,071	−1,446	375
1975 1st qtr.	111	116	108	98	102	−79	21	−31	−57	−316	−722	406
2nd qtr.		114		91	99		−126	−72	−52	−235	−525	290
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.2	N/C	+1.9	−9.1	−13.4							
on a year earlier	+2.8	+2.2	−3.6	−6.9	−9.5							

	Index of industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs					Labour			Trade§	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Index of retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used‡	Index of wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales‡	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)‡	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
			monthly averages										totals	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	31 July 1972				Series in	
£m in base year			15,895	thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million	
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	737	3.2	129	8,810	8,528
1972	102.6	102.3	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	816	3.6	145	9,140	9,830
1973	110.2	110.9	110.7	137.3	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2*	115.6	581	2.6	304	11,771	14,066
1974	106.4	108.0	109.9	102.7	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	572+	2.5+	298+	15,886	21,120
1973 4th qtr.	109.9	111.0	112.0	119	186.8†	10.3	167.6	129.1	121.0	494	2.2	361	3,150	4,124
1974 1st qtr.	104.0	106.3	109.8	103	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	546	2.4	286	3,563	4,838
2nd qtr.	107.9	109.6	107.3	104	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	552	2.4	311	3,977	5,284
3rd qtr.	108.4	109.9	111.0	109	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	592	2.6	306	4,239	5,445
4th qtr.	105.3	106.1	111.6	96	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,106	5,553
1975 1st qtr.	104.4	105.4	111.5	106	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	701	3.1	..	4,637	5,359
2nd qtr	100.1	100.2	108.7	91	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.2	814	3.6	166	4,479	5,004
1974 Aug.	108.9	110.8	111.4	102	109.8	16.9	213.7	156.1	145.6	597	2.6	301	1,404	1,807
Sept.	107.3	108.5	112.2	118	111.0	17.1	212.8	158.6	146.4	603	2.7	301	1,465	1,838
Oct.	106.2	106.6	111.4	102	113.2	17.1	220.1	162.2	148.7	607	2.7	294	1,371	1,859
Nov.	105.8	106.9	112.8	98	115.2	18.3	223.8	164.8	153.9	613	2.7	273	1,327	1,929
Dec.	103.8	104.9	110.8	87	116.9	19.1	222.5	167.6	158.0	..	..	..	1,408	1,765
1975 Jan.	105.1	107.2	113.0	109	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.7	678 e	3.0	..	1,589	1,876
Feb.	105.5	106.6	112.3	113	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	705	3.1	192	1,480	1,796
Mar.	103.2	103.3	109.4	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	722	3.2	186	1,568	1,687
Apr.	101.5	101.7	120.2	89	129.1	21.7	222.9	182.5	170.1	760	3.3	173	1,393	1,690
May	99.5	99.5	102.5	90	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	817	3.6	156	1,616	1,664
June	99.5	99.6	104.5	95	137.1	26.1	227.7	189.0	182.2	864	3.8	141	1,470	1,650
July	100.0	100.3	104.7	89	138.5	26.3	232.8 p	191.7 p	184.1	938	4.1	129	1,579	1,872
Aug.			105.0 p	93 p	139.3	26.9	241.0 p	193.7 p		967	4.2	134	1,494 p	1,864 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−3.5	−3.9	−5.3	+0.4	+7.0		+4.5	+4.6	+8.3	+20.5		−21.5	−1	+7
on a year earlier	−8.1	−9.2	−4.4	−13.2	+26.4		+10.0	+24.7	+32.7	+59.5		−56.8	+10	—

(‡) Not seasonally adjusted. (§) On a balance of payments basis. * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT. † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100.
+ Average of 11 months. e Figure is estimate. †† Latest 5 months on previous 5 months and on 5 months on year earlier.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
p provisional	ø fifty-three week period

In the three months ended June 1975 deliveries were estimated to be 1 per cent higher on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis, than in the three months ended March 1975. Net new orders were 47 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of June orders on hand were 2 per cent up on the March 1975 level. The index of output in the three months ended June 1975 was 13 per cent lower than in the three months ended March 1975.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturers' deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumer expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor Production series under the reference PQ 450.

The table below is compiled from the results of the monthly and quarterly inquiries which started at the beginning of 1971 and the KS inquiry which they superseded. Linkage factors spanning the fourth quarter 1970 and the first quarter 1971 have been calculated from matching samples of firms contributing to both the old and new inquiries and the KS results adjusted to provide a single, broadly comparable series. Since the linking factors cover only two quarters, however, the amendment back data for 1966-70 should be interpreted with caution.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (Minimum List Heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). The movements shown by the index numbers will frequently differ from those shown by the absolute figures of pairage and value which relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC.

In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Index of output: Orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders on hand (end period)			Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs		£ million	Million pairs
1966		33.6			..			16.4			
1967		37.8			16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6			17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6			15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9			16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5		55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5		59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2		85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	108	46.2		80.8	14.8		31.4	14.8		31.7	18.0
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1973 1st quarter	105	36.2	34.9	62.4	18.1	15.4	29.6	15.9	15.5	28.7	18.7
2nd quarter	108	45.8	41.8	86.5	18.0	18.1	34.0	14.9	15.8	25.9	20.6
3rd quarter	110	40.6	50.7	73.9	13.7	18.2	25.0	15.5	15.2	29.2	16.3
4th quarter	111	46.2	51.2	85.2	18.4	16.5	33.6	16.5	16.3	29.8	16.5
1974 1st quarter	101	52.2	51.8	89.0	15.9	14.0	30.7	13.9	13.8	29.4	13.6
2nd quarter	112	51.9	47.7	95.1	14.3	14.0	32.1	14.4	15.3	30.0	19.4
3rd quarter	113	41.6	49.8	74.7	12.0	15.7	27.6	15.4	14.9	34.3	16.4
4th quarter	105	46.2	50.2	80.8	17.0	15.5	35.2	15.4	15.4	33.2	18.0
1975 1st quarter p	108	36.0	36.9	62.6	11.4	10.3	30.6	14.8	14.7	36.7	18.3
2nd quarter p	94	41.2	37.7	82.0	15.7	15.1	38.4	13.9	14.8	31.9	23.1
1973 April	110	41.0	36.6	75.2	19.5	17.2	38.8	14.8	15.4	25.9	
May	106	45.4	37.7	86.7	20.1	17.3	38.6	15.6	16.2	27.0	
June	107	45.8	41.8	86.5	14.5	19.7	24.6	14.1	15.7	24.9	
July	110	42.7	44.1	76.6	11.9	17.7	17.4	15.0	15.5	27.3	
August	113	41.3	46.8	75.2	14.0	18.2	27.9	15.4	15.5	29.3	
September	109	40.6	50.7	73.9	15.4	18.6	29.7	16.1	14.7	31.0	
October	109	45.6	54.7	81.3	24.4	19.8	42.7	19.4	15.8	35.4	
November	114	49.1	55.3	92.5	21.5	17.3	43.2	17.9	16.7	32.0	
December	109	46.2	51.2	85.2	9.2	12.3	14.7	12.1	16.4	22.0	
1974 January	98	46.5	50.6	86.4	12.8	12.0	27.1	12.5	12.6	25.9	
February	98	50.8	53.4	88.0	17.4	16.1	29.3	13.1	13.3	27.6	
March	108	52.2	51.8	89.0	17.6	13.8	35.7	16.1	15.4	34.7	
April	114	55.2	51.8	92.4	18.4	15.4	35.0	15.5	15.4	31.6	
May	106	55.9	49.9	101.3	15.3	13.2	38.9	14.6	15.1	30.1	
June	116	51.9	47.7	95.1	9.3	13.3	22.3	13.2	15.5	28.5	
July	119	47.6	48.6	83.2	11.4	16.3	23.2	15.4	15.4	35.1	
August	113	43.0	46.8	75.9	10.0	13.6	24.6	14.6	15.4	31.8	
September	106	41.6	49.8	74.7	14.6	17.1	34.9	16.0	14.0	36.1	
October	100	41.0	49.3	79.1	17.3	14.1	42.8	17.9	14.6	38.5	
November	109	49.0	54.1	90.4	24.5	20.8	45.7	16.4	16.1	34.4	
December	107	46.2	50.2	80.8	9.1	11.6	17.1	12.0	15.5	26.7	
1975 January p	112	39.0	42.5	70.9	7.5	7.0	26.7	14.7	14.8	36.5	
February p	109	33.6	36.1	62.6	9.7	9.0	29.2	15.1	15.4	37.6	
March p	102	36.0	36.9	62.6	17.1	14.9	36.0	14.7	14.0	36.0	
April p	88	40.4	36.9	74.8	18.7	14.3	45.0	14.4	14.3	32.7	
May p	89	44.1	37.9	87.5	16.7	15.1	41.8	13.0	14.1	29.1	
June p	104	41.2	37.7	82.0	11.6	15.9	28.3	14.4	16.1	33.8	

Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in June 1975 was 15 per cent lower than in June 1974. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January to June 1975 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 11 per cent less than in the same period last year; deliveries of worsted yarn (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 10 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 7 per cent less and that of man-made fibre tops was 12 per cent less.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos					million sq. metres		
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1973 1st quarter	40.7	19.9	13.3	36.8	27.8	25.8	24.5	8.6
2nd quarter	34.9	16.6	13.9	33.4	24.6	27.2	21.7	7.3
3rd quarter	29.2	13.0	13.0	29.8	21.8	24.1	19.9	6.7
4th quarter	31.8	12.9	15.6	35.2	25.7	27.2	22.2	8.1
1974 1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
2nd quarter	33.6	12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.8	21.2	7.2
3rd quarter	25.9	10.0	14.0	28.0	20.6	23.0	19.4	6.4
4th quarter	24.7	9.1	12.0	28.5	21.6	20.6	21.2	6.8
1975 1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd quarter		11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
1974 January	8.7	3.6	3.8	9.2	6.8	7.4	6.7	2.3
February	8.6	3.6	4.0	8.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	2.9
March	11.1	4.7	5.5	11.5	7.8	8.3	7.6	2.6
April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
July	9.2	4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
August	7.7	2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3
September	9.0	3.6	4.2	9.7	6.8	7.9	6.8	2.6
October	8.6	3.3	4.9	10.1	8.4	8.2	7.9	2.5
November	8.4	3.0	3.8	9.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	2.5
December	7.7	2.8	3.4	8.8	6.0	5.3	6.4	1.8
1975 January	8.9	3.6	4.3	9.9	7.0	6.1	7.3	2.3
February	9.1	3.8	4.2	9.5	6.4	5.6	6.6	2.9
March	9.3	3.9	4.4	10.1	7.0	6.1	6.8	2.5
April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
June		4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In June deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.7 million kilos.

Exports of wool textile products

	Total	Wool tops		Yarns		Woven fabrics (‡)		Other wool textile products (†)
	£m.	£m.	Mn. kilos	£m.	Mn. kilos	£m.	Mn. sq. metres	£m.
1968	114.80	23.94	25.44	20.44	14.34	66.14	69.42	4.28
1969	125.41	26.55	26.01	23.32	16.08	71.08	69.46	4.45
1970	117.25	20.38	21.08	23.37	15.85	70.00	62.51	3.50
1971	106.82	16.28	18.66	23.28	15.88	62.57	54.30	4.70
1972	118.49	19.80	20.51	27.28	18.13	66.48	56.32	4.93
1973	172.32	38.06	21.36	36.95	18.28	91.08	60.39	6.24
1974	180.44	26.15	16.15	41.56	15.56	105.84	52.80	6.89
1972 1st quarter	24.72	4.00	4.71	6.06	4.22	13.66	12.14	1.00
2nd quarter	31.35	5.24	5.84	7.61	5.28	17.27	14.41	1.23
3rd quarter	26.41	3.96	4.03	5.81	3.79	15.53	13.27	1.12
4th quarter	36.01	6.59	5.93	7.81	4.84	20.03	16.51	1.59
1973 1st quarter	37.85	9.38	6.31	8.97	5.10	18.25	14.26	1.25
2nd quarter	46.56	11.04	8.10	9.53	4.88	24.48	16.57	1.51
3rd quarter	43.93	9.36	2.81	9.09	4.20	23.89	15.50	1.59
4th quarter	43.99	8.28	4.14	9.36	4.11	24.47	14.05	1.88
1974 1st quarter	45.05	8.55	..	10.47	4.20	24.44	13.50	1.58
2nd quarter	51.23	7.82	..	12.08	4.52	29.52	14.63	1.81
3rd quarter	42.27	4.86	..	9.56	3.43	26.23	12.84	1.62
4th quarter	41.90	4.92	..	9.45	3.41	25.66	11.84	1.88
1975 1st quarter	36.93	5.19	..	8.33	3.07	21.79	10.43	1.62
2nd quarter	42.17	6.97	..	9.36	3.54	24.27	10.77	1.57

(†) Wool or other animal hair, carded or combed; felts, wholly or partly of wool; blankets: travelling rugs; woollen and worsted fents; and other made-up textile articles, not individually specified in the Export List, of sheeps' or lambs' wool of fine animal hair.

Other commodities of, or containing, wool or animal hair not included in the above table; sheeps' or lambs' wool and fine or coarse animal hair not carded or combed; noils, rags and other waste; carpets; garments; smallwares; knitted or crocheted fabrics; woven fabrics predominantly of man-made fibres containing sheeps' or lambs' wool or fine animal hair.

(‡) Excluding mechanical cloths from January 1970.

Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries

In the three months ended May 1975, deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 5 per cent lower than in the preceding three months. Net new orders were 1 per cent higher and orders-on-hand at the end of May were 6 per cent above the end February 1975 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying table.)

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974	146		115		115	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1973 3rd quarter	150	158	102	118	115	117
4th quarter	155	155	129	117	120	118
1974 1st quarter	164	171	111	116	107	106
2nd quarter	171	156	122	115	113	115
3rd quarter r	137	147	96	110	115	118
4th quarter	146	149	130	119	123	120
1975 1st quarter p	140	146	121	129	121	124
1973 July	161	157	90	117	111	117
August	157	161	97	122	103	116
September	150	158	118	113	130	118
October	159	159	165	129	137	120
November	164	154	141	115	128	120
December	155	155	81	108	95	115
1974 January	166	165	96	111	92	106
February	169	174	122	130	108	103
March	164	171	116	106	122	108
April	171	179	133	130	115	115
May	182	164	134	112	108	112
June	171	156	100	103	117	119
July r	156	155	85	111	112	117
August r	143	150	86	108	105	119
September r	137	147	116	111	129	117
October	143	146	150	117	141	123
November	153	146	154	125	130	122
December	146	149	86	113	96	116
1975 January	144	144	106	123	108	125
February	140	144	126	134	130	124
March	140	146	120	130	125	122
April p	149	156	136	120	119	108
May p	168	152	148	124	110	116

Production in the cotton industry

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in the period January to June 1975 the amount of cloth woven was 4 per cent higher than in the same period last year. Production of single yarn decreased by 9 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 5 per cent.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg.				million metres	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1974 January*	1.6	1.4	1.1		6.6	6.8
February	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.1	7.9
March	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.6
April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8
September	1.8	1.5	1.3		6.8	9.9
October*	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.0	11.4
November	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.5	11.1
December	1.6	1.3	1.2		7.7	8.6
1975 January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

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Provisional estimates of vehicle production and new car registrations in August

Tables 1 and 2 show United Kingdom vehicle production as estimated from provisional returns supplied by the major manufacturers. Car production in the four weeks ending 23 August totalled 79,000 units, a weekly rate of 19,750, which was 30 per cent lower than the level of output in August 1974. Commercial vehicle output at 20,500 units (5,125 per week) was 19 per cent below the level of production in August 1974. Production of cars in the first eight months of 1975 is now estimated to have been 21 per cent below that in the corresponding period of 1974, while production of commercial vehicles has fallen by less than 1 per cent on the same comparison.

In seasonally adjusted terms, car output of 102,000 units was 20 per cent below the average monthly output in 1974. Production of commercial vehicles at 31,400 units was 6 per cent below the average monthly output last year.

Table 3 shows provisional estimates of new car registrations. Seasonally adjusted new car registrations in Great Britain in August are provisionally estimated at 93,000, slightly higher than in July, while the average monthly level of 92,000 registrations over the three months June to August is the same as that of the preceding three months.

The actual level of new registrations in August, before seasonal adjustment, is estimated at 153,000. As a result of the change last autumn in the basis of collecting these statistics a number of registrations which would formerly have been recorded under July are now recorded as August registrations. Allowance has been made for this in seasonally adjusting the figures.

TABLE 1 Estimated UK production in June 1975

Thousands

	Cars		Commercial vehicles	
	Month	Weekly average	Month	Weekly average
Estimated output:				
1975 (4 weeks ended 23 8.75)	79.0	19.8	20.5	5.1
1974 (4 weeks ended 24.8.74)	113.0	28.3	25.2	6.3
Percentage change		−30		−19

TABLE 2 UK vehicle production: monthly averages (seasonally adjusted)

Thousands

	1974			1975					Average of		
	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	June	July	Aug	Mar.-May 1975	June-Aug. 1975	% change
Cars	132	138	130	119	89	91	122	102	94	105	+12
Commercial vehicles	33.8	37.5	34.6	35.6	30.9	28.2	32.4	31.4	32.1	30.7	−4

TABLE 3 New car registrations

Thousands

	1974			1975					Average of		
	2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	June	July	Aug.	Mar.-May 1975	June-Aug. 1975	% change
Recorded	330	331	245	348	289	97.1	55.4	153			
Seasonally adjusted	313	326	287	319	274	94.6	89.1	93	92	92	N/c

The prototype VT 2 hovercraft on trials in the Solent. A fully amphibious craft measuring 99 by 43½ ft., the VT 2 is propelled at up to 60 knots (70 mph) by two Dowty ducted-fan units – the largest ever manufactured – each driven by a Rolls-Royce Proteus gas turbine. With an empty weight of 60 tons and fully loaded weight of 100 tons. VT 2 is one of the largest hovercraft yet built and can be used as a logistic support hovercraft, in the version shown, or as a missile-armed fast patrol hovercraft. The prototype has been on show at the Royal Navy Equipment Exhibition at Greenwich, which opened on 15 September.

Wholesale price indices in August

Output prices

The provisional price index for the output of manufactured products rose by 1 per cent to 193.7 (1970 = 100) in August. In the period June to August, the first three months not directly affected by Budget increases, this index has shown an increase of 3½ per cent. This compares with an increase of 6½ per cent in the previous three months.

The index for the output of manufactured goods other than food, drink and tobacco rose by 1¼ per cent to 199.5, with a wide spread of goods contributing to this.

The recent trend of small monthly increases in the index for the food manufacturing industries has been maintained. The rise of ¾ per cent to 201.6 for August was largely due to higher milk prices, which were partly offset by lower prices for sugar.

The quarterly pattern of price increases has continued in August with few individual sectors of industry showing significant price changes. In all sectors of industry the index increases were a result of

TABLE 1 Price numbers of materials purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1974			1975		1974	1975							
		2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	Aug.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. p	Aug. p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	213.7	212.9	222.1	220.9	225.6	213.8	222.1	218.8	221.9	222.9	226.2	227.7	232.8	241.0
	†Materials	221.2	219.7	228.2	225.9	228.7	220.4	227.8	223.9	225.9	226.8	228.8	230.6	236.1	245.4
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	142.7	147.9	164.2	173.3	195.8	148.8	167.2	169.5	183.3	185.7	200.9	200.9	200.9	200.9
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries:	231.2	230.7	237.3	237.3	244.3	231.6	237.4	236.1	238.5	239.9	245.6	247.5	252.0	256.4
	†Materials	243.7	242.4	247.7	246.5	251.3	243.4	247.5	245.7	246.4	247.6	252.0	254.2	259.2	264.5
	Materials and fuels purchased by Selected Broad Sectors of industry:														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	172.1	171.5	187.1	186.7	187.7	171.2	188.8	182.7	188.6	189.0	186.7	187.5	193.6	208.0
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	167.2	165.7	181.1	184.1	186.5	165.1	184.5	180.0	187.9	187.8	185.5	186.3	191.9	205.4
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	214.1	219.3	227.3	230.9	233.5	220.2	230.8	230.5	231.3	231.9	234.2	234.4	237.7	241.0
311 and 312	Steel industries	172.3	183.9	200.4	210.7	225.9	183.8	208.7	212.3	211.1	223.8	226.5	227.3	229.9	229.4
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	177.7	181.2	184.0	197.6	206.1	181.4	193.6	197.4	201.7	204.1	206.4	207.8	210.0	211.6
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	178.9	165.9	163.9	171.0	176.5	167.5	168.2	170.3	174.4	175.8	176.9	176.9	179.7	183.0
361	Electrical machinery industry	177.3	174.0	173.7	184.4	191.6	174.8	181.3	183.5	188.4	190.3	192.0	192.6	194.3	196.8
Order XIII	Textile industries	191.2	190.0	186.4	189.4	198.6	191.2	188.5	188.9	190.7	193.9	200.9	201.1	201.9	204.0
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	167.4	171.9	174.7	176.1	179.4	171.5	175.7	176.1	175.4	177.7	179.6	181.0	183.0	183.8
Order XVII	Timber industries	217.1	218.4	217.0	217.4	217.2	218.5	216.7	217.6	218.0	217.6	217.4	216.7	216.4	216.8
481 to 484	Paper industries	173.0	203.0	215.3	231.8	240.1	203.3	231.8	230.6	232.9	236.6	240.4	243.4	243.0	245.0
Order XX	Construction materials	175.6	179.8	183.9	194.7	203.4	179.5	190.8	193.6	199.6	201.8	203.6	204.9	206.5	209.0
Part of Order XX	House building materials	177.2	181.9	186.9	196.5	205.0	181.7	192.8	195.6	201.0	203.7	205.5	205.9	208.0	211.0

† Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising.

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry* of 13 June 1975.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by broad sectors of industry.

4 Firm indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Provisional indices at high levels of aggregation, Table 1 and Table 2, also include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be published if the revised indices are significantly different. These revisions will only be notified in the full version of the wholesale price index articles, ie those published in April, August and December of each year.

6 **Correspondence about wholesale price index numbers should be addressed to Statistics Division 4, Room 610, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB. Telephone inquiries for price index numbers should be made to 01-215 3549 (engineering), 5216 (chemicals, steel, building materials, etc.), 3548 (textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc.), 3173 (imported commodities), 3544 Tables 1 and 2 indices.**

CHART 1 (LOG SCALE)

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
(other than food, drink & tobacco)
the latest two months are provisional

CHART 2 (LOG SCALE)

FOOD MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
the latest two months are provisional

a number of small price changes with no individual items having a dominant effect.

The price indices for the chemical, engineering, timber and paper industries have shown the largest rises of between 1 and 1½ per cent.

Late information of a large price increase for colliery arches has caused a revision to the June index for the output of the steel industries. Together with further price increases for steel castings this has eliminated the effect in this index of the reduction in price of steel sheet products during the last three months.

Input prices

The increase of 7½ per cent, to 208.0, for the provisional index of materials and fuel purchased by the food manufacturing industries was mainly due to higher prices for imported and home-produced cereals and for milk. Imported vegetable oils, oilseed, coffee and sugar also continued to show price rises.

The strengthening of the dollar against other currencies in August was responsible for another rise in the sterling price of crude oil. Copper, silver and other imported commodities also showed significant increases and contributed to a second successive monthly rise of 2 per cent, to 264.5, in the index of basic materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries in August.

The provisional index for materials and fuel purchased by all

TABLE 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1974			1975		1974	1975							
		2nd qtr.	3rd qtr.	4th qtr.	1st qtr.	2nd qtr.	Aug.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. p	Aug. p
Orders III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	148.9	156.1	164.9	176.0	186.3	156.1	173.0	175.9	179.2	182.5	187.3	189.0	191.7	193.7
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	153.5	162.0	170.9	182.8	192.1	161.9	179.5	182.5	186.4	190.4	192.0	193.8	197.2	199.5
	Output of Selected Broad Sectors of Industry:														
211 to 229	Products of the food manufacturing industries	161.0	165.6	178.0	192.5	197.4	166.0	189.2	193.0	195.4	195.7	197.5	199.1	200.1	201.6
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Products of the food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	154.7	161.2	174.3	190.7	198.7	161.8	186.0	191.0	195.2	196.5	198.8	200.7	201.9	203.6
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	150.3	158.2	167.3	177.4	186.2	158.9	174.0	177.0	181.2	184.8	186.8	187.1	190.8	193.0
311 and 312	Steel industries	179.5	186.4	189.5	220.3	227.6	186.0	214.4	220.0	226.6	227.5	227.7	227.5	227.2	227.8
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	146.9	156.3	165.7	177.2	187.6 p	156.2	173.5	176.8	181.2	185.7	187.4	189.6 p	193.6	196.4
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	148.7	159.2	168.2	182.2	193.0 p	159.1	177.8	182.4	186.5	191.1	193.0	194.8 p	200.0	202.5
Order IX	Electrical engineering	139.9	146.4	153.2	161.2	170.9	145.9	158.0	160.6	165.1	168.1	171.4	173.2	174.6	176.2
Order XIII	Textile industries	160.4	166.5	170.1	172.9	175.7	166.6	172.4	173.0	173.3	174.3	175.8	177.0	179.5	180.4
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	138.9	144.0	150.0	156.8	160.9	143.1	155.4	157.0	158.1	159.1	161.2	162.5	164.6	165.2
Order XVII	Timber industries	174.7	182.0	187.2	194.8	201.7	182.4	191.6	195.0	198.0	200.8	201.8	202.6	205.8	208.5
481 to 484	Paper industries	161.9	181.3	194.4	209.4	218.6	182.0	203.8	210.7	213.8	216.9	218.2	220.6	223.4	226.8
Order XX	New construction‡	180	190	200	210					210			220 p		

‡ Index of building costs relate to average for the quarter (*Department of Environment*).

manufacturing industry rose by 3½ per cent, to 241.0, in August. This index has now shown an increase of 6½ per cent in the three months June to August despite the stability of prices for coal, gas and electricity for this period.

None of the individual sectors of industry for which indices are published showed material price rises as great as that received by manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries in August. However, several sectors showed monthly increases larger than 1 per cent. Of these the index for materials and fuel purchased by the electrical engineering industries rose most sharply by 1¾ per cent, to 183.0, with sustained price rises for wrought copper and copper products continuing to be the most significant items. These also made major contributions to the increase of 1¼ per cent in the index for electrical machinery.

The higher prices for crude oil and imported vegetable oils, particularly palm oil, were largely responsible for another increase of 1½ per cent in the index for the chemicals industry.

A further reduction in the prices of softwood and plywood restricted the increase in the index for the timber industries to ¼ per

TABLE 3(a) Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (as published monthly)

1970=100

1968 SIC		1974 Jul.	1975 Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul. p
101	Coal	181.6	299.6	299.9	300.7	300.7
102/1	Coated limestone roadstone	191.0	231.3	243.2	245.5	246.6
103	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	140.5	177.2	177.6	182.2	187.1
240	Tobacco	113.4	122.4	150.3	152.9	155.1
262	Motor spirit, Two star (including duty)	148.2	172.4	172.4	172.4	172.4
	Medium fuel oil (950 secs – including duty)●	250.9	294.0	294.0	294.0	294.0
	Derv fuel (including duty)●	142.6	149.9	149.1	147.7	147.7
263	Lubricating oils and greases	194.4	208.3	205.1	208.7	207.5
271	General chemicals	163.7	198.0	200.5	202.3	205.9
272	Pharmaceutical preparations	125.9	152.8	153.5	156.6	164.4
273	Toilet preparations	137.4	157.7	158.7	163.3	168.1
274	Paint	164.0	199.6	202.2	203.0	203.3
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	162.9	179.0	181.5	179.5	180.2
279/3	Explosives, fireworks, etc.	154.9	185.2	191.7	197 7	204.6
311/2	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical sheets)	184.1	220.6	220.8	211.3	201.7
	Tinplate	203.9	216.9	216.9	216.7	215.3
	Finished steel (other than sheets, tinplate, forgings and castings)	188.1	231.4	231.5	233.2	234.1
	Steel sheet piling	193.3	240.6	241.1	241.1	241.1
	Heavy steel bars and sections	194.5	237.5	237.6	238.7	241.2
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	196.4	233.9	234.0	234.0	234.0
312	Steel tubes – other than electric conduit tubes	192.0	249.3	249.3	249.4	249.4
313/2 and 313/4	Iron castings	171.0	224.6	225.7	228.5	233.6
313/4	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	170.2	237.8	237.8	238.6	241.3
321	Aluminium: Rolled	142.5	157.4	162.0	173.2	173.2
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	142.1	156.4	160.9	172.0	172.0
	Aluminium: Castings	172.4	186.9	188.2	188.2	191.2
	Aluminium: Forgings	136.4	160.5	160.5	160.5	179.8
322	Brass Ingots	154.2	119.1	116.5	114.0	115.0
331	Agricultural machinery	158.2	193.0	196.7	197.2	199.0
332	Metal-working machine tools	168.1	207.4	209.4	211.4 p	214.2
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	153.1	190.4	192.5	194.4 p	198.3
336	Construction and earth moving equipment	155.6	181.8	183.9	185.0	190.1
368	Domestic electrical appliances	128.7	154.0	157.7	159.9	161.3
390	Engineers' cutting tools: non-diamond	133.9	158.5	159.0	164.9	167.9
	Hacksaw blades	139.0	157.1	160.7	163.5	163.7
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	127.0	148.3	148.3	149.0	149.7
	Engineers' cutting tools	133.7	157.7	158.4	163.8	166.5
391	Hand tools and implements	158.5	197.2	200.7	204.4	207.1
392	Cutlery and tableware	152.1	186.8	187.4	188.6	191.0
411	Man-made fibres production	147.8	152.1	152.3	152.3	158.2
412, 414/5 and 415	All spun man-made fibres yarns	157.3	165.8	167.9	168.6	169.3
412	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	189.1	178.5	184.7	185.1	185.0
413	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	200.3	188.2	191.2	192.6	191.9
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	176.4	189.3	189.4	190.1	190.1
414/2	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	189.9	185.3	189.6	192.0	194.0
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	142.7	151.0	150.8	151.4	153.9
419	Carpets and rugs	157.0	170.4	170.4	172.7	179.2
431/1	Leather for footwear	155.3	155.5	155.5	155.5	161.2
441/449	Made-up clothing	139.6	154.9	157.2	158.7	160.6
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	149.4	171.9	172.5	173.7	175.3
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	157.0	203.2	212.0	214.9	216.6
461/2	Non-refractory goods, including building bricks	184.1	201.9	202.3	203.5	207.4
	Engineering bricks – *delivered*	203.7	231.7	231.7	231.7	236.8
463/1	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	138.0	169.4	187.9	196.0	199.7
463/2	Glass containers	149.8	191.3	202.1	206.8	206.8
464	Cement – *delivered in bulk*	147.3	202.4	202.4	202.4	206.3
471/1	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	227.0	221.1	222.5	222.3	224.0
471/2	Building joinery	197.4	225.3	225.2	225.6	228.3
472	Domestic furniture	156.0	178.9	182.4	183.5	187.6
473	Bedding, etc.	172.0	194.2	195.1	196.9	201.8
481	Paper and board	179.1	216.1	216.7	218.2	219.4
	Printing and writings (excluding newsprint)	175.9	211.7	211.7	211.7	211.8
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and fibreboard packing cases	170.8	212.2	214.3	219.0	220.1
483	Manufactured stationery	168.9	210.8	214.9	216.8	219.9
484/1	Wallpaper	173.2	214.1	214.1	218.7	220.6
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	155.9	176.5	176.8	176.8	179.0
492	Linoleum and felt base	153.8	176.8	177.1	179.7	183.2

● Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons exclusive of rebates.

TABLE 3(b) Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom

1970 = 100

	1974	1975			
	Aug.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug. p
Hides and skins	164.9	151.4	153.6	157.6	157.1
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	141.3	151.7	154.8	154.8	154.8
Copper‡	130.5	91.4	88.6	94.8	102.4
Lead‡	184.8	143.7	122.1	129.6	143.2
Nickel refined delivered§	144.0	154.7	157.8	161.1	164.0
Tin, ingot min. 99.75%‡	244.3	194.0	198.3	203.0	208.4
Zinc‡	368.8	261.2	267.0	262.2	282.8
Zinc§	257.9	281.4	281.4	281.4	281.4
Natural rubber	157.6	144.4	156.6	185.9 p	186.9

	1974	1975			
	Aug.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug. p
Sulphur, crude cif (for acid making)	168.6	262.0	262.0	256.3	256.3
Textiles:					
Cotton, raw	216.9	190.9	194.6	201.8	211.6
Wool, raw	227.6	209.5	205.5	204.5	209.3
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	242.9	224.2	224.5	224.3	226.3
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers)	234.7	223.7	221.8	218.3	217.2
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	258.9	240.3	237.6	235.8	234.7
Woodpulp, imported	221.8	283.3	289.9	286.0	291.8

‡ LME settlement price § Producer's price p = Provisional

TABLE 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices(1)

1963 = 100

	Primary commodities											
	Total			Agricultural non-food			Non-ferrous metals			Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals (2)		
	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies	$	£	Purchasers' currencies
1973 1st quarter	156	181	144	153	177	141	174	201	161	157	182	145
2nd quarter	175	194	155	171	189	151	206	228	182	177	196	156
3rd quarter	199	225	169	203	229	172	242	273	205	202	228	171
4th quarter	221	260	197	208	245	185	267	314	238	225	265	200
1974 1st quarter	289 r	354	267	226 r	278 r	209 r	299	367	277	290 r	356 r	269 r
2nd quarter	292 r	341 r	260 r	225 r	263 r	200 r	342	399	304	296 r	346 r	263 r
3rd quarter	295	351	268	218 r	260 r	198 r	258	308	235	292	348	265
4th quarter	303 r	364 r	273 r	206 r	248 r	185 r	225	270	202	297 r	357 r	267 r
1975 1st quarter	293 r	343 r	252 r	197 r	231 r	170 r	220	258	195	287 r	336 r	247 r
2nd quarter r	288 r	347 r	248	199 r	240 r	172 r	216	260	186	282	340 r	243
July(3)	*280*	*359*	*249*	*186*	*238*	*166*	*204*	*262*	*182*	*274*	*351*	*244*
August(3)	*284*	*376*	*259*	*185*	*245*	*169*	*207*	*274*	*189*	*278*	*368*	*254*

(1) Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchasers' currencies by converting the dolla index at prevailing exchange rates. (2) This combined index is not published as such by the UN. (3) Projections by Department of Industry shown in italics.
r = revised

Price index numbers of materials purchased

1963 = 100

1968 SIC		1975		
		Jun.	Jul. p	Aug. p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	299.6	306.3	317.1
	†Materials	305.2	312.5	324.8
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	266.7	266.7	266.7
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries:*	335.6	341.7	347.7
	†Materials	349.2	356.0	363.3
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	233.9	241.5	259.4
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	288.6	292.6	296.7
311 to 312	Steel industries	287.4	288.9	288.4
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	283.9	287.0	289.1
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	272.4	276.6	281.7
361	Electrical machinery industry	284.4	287.0	290.6
Order XIII	Textile industries	228.7	229.6	232.0
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	220.5	223.0	223.9
Order XVII	Timber industries	291.6	291.2	291.7
481 to 484	Paper industries	321.7	321.3	323.9
Order XX	Construction materials	270.1	272.2	275.5
Part of Order XX	House building materials	273.3	276.0	280.0

‡ Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising
* The index number for May previously published as 330.0 should have been 333.0.

Index numbers of wholesale prices

The index numbers of wholesale prices relating to 1970 = 100 supersede those previously published on the base 1963 = 100. For the convenience of those who use the index numbers in long-term contracts to take account of changes in the costs of materials, the Department of Industry will continue to publish indices relating to materials used in broad sectors of industry on the base 1963 = 100 until December 1975. From April 1973 the index numbers in the accompanying table have been given the month to month movements of the equivalent index in the 1970 = 100 Series. For users of other 1973 based index numbers who wish to continue the series in this way multiplication factors will be provided on request.

cent in August, but higher prices for woodpulp were largely responsible for an increase of ¾ per cent in the index for the paper industries.

Another of the few commodities to show a decrease in price in August was heavy steel scrap. This has now shown a price reduction of 25 per cent in the last six months and was responsible for the slight decrease in the index for the steel industries in August.

New price rises for raw wool together with renewed price increases for raw cotton were largely responsible for the 1 per cent rise in the index for the textile industries.

The metric change

Going Metric is the quarterly bulletin of the Metrication Board. As the metric change is taking place around us *Going Metric* provides information of what is happening in Government, in industry, in education. *Going Metric* is free from the Information Office, J Metrication Board, 22 Kingsway, London WC2B 6LE.

Regional Development Grant payments

The following table lists the companies which have received one or more payments of Regional Development Grant of over £25,000 in the quarter ended 31 March 1975. The table is drawn up on a regional basis according to the locations of the premises in respect of which the grants were paid. The amounts shown against each premises are in some cases individual payments and in some cases the total of a number of separate payments each individually exceeding £25,000.

Company	Place of premises	Grant (£'000)
SOUTH WEST		
AMP of Great Britain Ltd.	Bideford	97
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co. Ltd.	Redruth	119
English Clays Lovering Pochin and Co. Ltd.	St. Austell	1,020
High Temperature Engineers Ltd.	South Molton	27
Rank Radio International Ltd.	Plymouth	120
WEST MIDLANDS		
Michelin Tyre Co. Ltd.	Stoke-on-Trent	132
EAST MIDLANDS		
Eastwood, W. and J. B., Ltd.	Mansfield	36
Grampian Furniture Ltd.	Derby	56
The Home Brewery Co. Ltd.	Nottingham	44
Jay Feld and Co. Ltd.	Tibshelf (Derbyshire)	31
Jersey-Kapwood Ltd.	Somercotes (Derbyshire)	26
Joseph Bourne and Son Ltd.	Derby	28
Profile Expanded Plastics Ltd.	Ripley	102
Robinson and Sons Ltd.	Chesterfield	26
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE		
Allied Breweries (UK) Ltd.	Leeds	146
British Gypsum Ltd.	Leeds	158
British Steel Corporation	Rotherham	52
British Sugar Corporation Ltd.	York	35
Conoco Ltd.	Grimsby	39
Crompton Parkinson Ltd.	Doncaster	35
Field Sons and Co. Ltd.	Bradford	40
Freezing and Cold Store Services Ltd.	Doncaster	29
George Armitage and Sons Ltd.	Dewsbury	56
Hirst Buckley Ltd.	Huddersfield	59
ICI Fibres	Harrogate	42
John Crossley and Sons Ltd.	Halifax	28
McCain International Ltd.	Scarborough	92
Magnet Joinery Ltd.	Keighley	60
Maltby Metallic Brick Co. Ltd.	Rotherham	29
Marldena Ltd.	Shipley	27
Patons and Baldwins Ltd.	Wakefield	27
Rank Precision Industries Ltd.	Leeds	64
UBM Glass (Rycrofts)	Bradford	50
Wold Farm Foods Ltd.	Grimsby	29
Yorkshire Chemicals Ltd.	Leeds	74
NORTH WEST		
Air Products Ltd.	Crewe	76
Almetex Ltd.	St. Helens	26
British Aircraft Corporation Ltd.	Preston	122
British American Tobacco Co. Ltd.	Liverpool	74
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Liverpool	139
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Leyland	31
British Reinforced Concrete Ltd.	Birkenhead	143
British Salt Ltd.	Middlewich	32
British Sidac Ltd.	St. Helens	38
Burmah Oil Trading Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	27
Cammell Laird Shipbuilders Ltd.	Birkenhead	439
Champion Sparking Plug Co. Ltd.	Upton (Wirral)	38
Courtaulds Ltd.	Liverpool	146
CWS Ltd.	Crewe	36
Donald Macpherson Group Ltd.	Bury	29
ERF Ltd.	Sandbach	33
Fibreglass Ltd.	St. Helens	377
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Liverpool	550
Geo. L. Scott and Co. Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	30
Graham and Brown Ltd.	Blackburn	29
Gullick Dobson Ltd.	Wigan	68
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Castner-Kellner)	395
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Rocksavage)	56
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Runcorn (Weston Point)	36
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Hyde	32
James Wheeldon and Sons Ltd.	Widnes	31
John Dale Ltd.	Skelmersdale	35
Kellogg Co. of Great Britain Ltd.	Manchester	47
Kraft Foods Ltd.	Liverpool	97
Lever Bros. Ltd.	Port Sunlight	107
Locker Air-Maze Ltd.	Warrington	42
Main Gas Appliances Ltd.	Burnley	28
Metal Box Ltd.	Wirral	29
Pilkington Bros. Ltd.	St. Helens	164
The Ravenhead Co. Ltd.	St. Helens	26
Robertson (UK) H. H. Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	27
Samuel Courtauld and Co. Ltd.	Hyde	38
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	27
Shopfitters (Lancashire) Ltd.	Accrington	33
Snowdex Ltd.	Manchester	53
Stoves Ltd.	Liverpool	25
Thorn Colour Tubes Ltd.	Skelmersdale	400
UML Ltd.	Port Sunlight	102
Urenco (UK)	Capenhurst	429
Van Den Berghs and Jurgens Ltd.	Bromborough (Wirral)	32
Van Den Berghs and Jurgens Ltd.	Birkenhead	173
Vauxhall Motors Ltd.	Ellesmere Port	26
WCB Plastics Developments Ltd.	Winsford	29
Wm. Crawford and Sons	Liverpool	221
Wolstenhome Bronze Powders Ltd.	Lower Darwen	35
YKK Fasteners (UK) Ltd.	Runcorn	125
NORTHERN		
AEI Cables Ltd.	Birtley	26
Alcan (UK) Ltd.	Morpeth	97
Allen-Bradley Electronics Ltd.	Jarrow	58
Amoco (UK) Ltd.	Consett	177
Associated Co-operative Creameries Ltd.	Blaydon-on-Tyne	46
Bowater-Scott Corporation Ltd.	Barrow-in-Furness	245
Brentford Nylons Ltd.	Cramlington	109
Bridon-Fibres and Plastics Ltd.	Sunderland	94
British Gypsum Ltd.	Penrith	48
British Nuclear Fuels Ltd.	Seascale	319
British Sidac Ltd.	Wigton	27
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough (Lackenby)	88
British Steel Corporation	Middlesbrough (Cleveland)	25
British Steel Corporation	Consett	60
British Steel Corporation	Penrith	33
British Steel Corporation	Redcar	3,194
British Steel Corporation	Teesside	131
The British United Shoe Machinery Co. Ltd.	Saltburn-by-the-Sea	48
Carlisle-Webb Offsett Ltd.	Carlisle	79
Century Aluminium Co. Ltd.	Birtley	26
Cigarette Components Ltd.	Jarrow	115
Cleveland Potash Co. Ltd.	Saltburn-by-the-Sea	70
Commercial Plastics Ltd.	Cramlington	60
Condura Fabrics	Maryport	61
Courtaulds Ltd.	Belmont	153
Courtaulds Ltd.	Spennymoor	269
Doxford Engines Ltd.	Sunderland	41
Doxford and Sunderland Ltd.	Sunderland	28
Dunlop Ltd.	Washington New Town	38
Eaton Axles Ltd.	Darlington	26
Electrofoil Ltd.	North Shields	46
Engineering Services (Wilton) Ltd.	Middlesbrough	108
The Ever Ready Co. (Holdings) Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	110
Expanded Metal Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	Hartlepool	26
Express Dairy Foods Ltd.	Appleby	43
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.	Ulverston	99
Henry Cooke Ltd.	Milnthorpe (Cumbria)	50
Hilton Davis Chemicals Ltd.	Cramlington	143
ICI Fibres	Middlesbrough	94
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Billingham	442
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Middlesbrough	236
James A. Jobling and Co. Ltd.	Sunderland	38
John Nixon Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	29
Laing Offshore	Hartlepool	95
Lomount Const. Ltd.	Crook	57
Merck Sharp and Dohme	Cramlington	216
Monsanto Ltd.	Middlesbrough	87
Mullard Ltd.	Durham	182
National Smokeless Fuels Ltd.	Hebburn on Tyne	37
National Coal Board	Gateshead	26
Newalls Insulation Co. Ltd.	Washington	205
N.S.K. Bearings Europe Ltd.	Peterlee	42
Passon Adhesive Products Ltd.	Cramlington	66
Philips Electrical Ltd.	Washington	37
Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers Ltd.	Sunderland	95
Rediffusion Consumer Electronics Ltd.	Billingham	66
Redpath Dorman Long Ltd.	Middlesbrough	105
Rohm and Haas (UK) Ltd.	Jarrow	80
Rohm and Haas (UK) Ltd.	Port Clarence (Teesside)	275
Rowntree Mackintosh Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	35
Shell (UK) Ltd.	Middlesbrough	262
Shephard Hill and Co.	Maryport	117
Shield Packaging Ltd.	Washington	31
Spillers Foods Ltd.	Maryport	32
Steels Engineering Ltd.	Sunderland	54
Sunderland Shipbuilders Ltd.	Sunderland	132
Swan Hunter Shipbuilders Ltd.	Hebburn on Tyne	141
Tallent Engineering Ltd.	Darlington	35
Thermax Ltd.	Bishop Auckland	30
Thomas De La Rue and Co. Ltd.	Gateshead	38
Thorn Heating Holdings Ltd.	Gateshead	34
Tilling Construction Services Ltd.	Middlesbrough	36
Vaux Breweries Ltd.	Sunderland	147
Vickers Ltd.	Newcastle upon Tyne	42
Whessoe Ltd.	Darlington	75
Whessoe Ltd.	Middlesbrough	42
Wm. Browns Saw Mills Ltd.	Darlington	122
WALES		
Aberthaw and Bristol Channel	Barry	150
Alcoa Manufacturing (GB) Ltd	Swansea	625

Company	Place of premises	Grant (£'000)
Alfred Teves Ltd.	Ebbw Vale	130
Amoco (UK) Ltd.	Milford Haven	79
The Associated Octel Co. Ltd.	Amlwch (Angelsey)	110
Austin Morris British Leyland UK Ltd.	Llanelli	29
BOAC Engine Overhaul Ltd.	Pontypridd	29
Borg-Warner Ltd.	Port Talbot	351
Brocklehurst Yarns Ltd.	Cardiff	32
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Cardiff	148
British Leyland UK Ltd.	Llanelli	54
British Steel Corporation	Ebbw Vale	279
British Steel Corporation	Gorseinon	26
British Steel Corporation	Newport	114
British Steel Corporation	Port Talbot	205
British Steel Corporation	Shotton	110
Burroughs Machines Ltd.	Cardiff	116
Courtaulds Ltd.	Holywell	26
Danygraig Brick Co. Ltd.	Risca (Gwent)	31
Dow Corning Ltd.	Barry	203
Dunlop Ltd.	Aberdare	43
Ford Motor Co. Ltd.	Pontypridd	150
G.E.C. (Radio and Television) Ltd.	Aberdare	234
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Glyneath (W. Glam)	255
GKN Floform Ltd.	Welshpool	44
Guest Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd.	Cardiff (Castle)	927
Guest Keen and Nettlefolds Ltd.	Cardiff (Tremorfa)	111
Hancocks Shipbuilding Co.	Pembroke Dock	26
Hoover Ltd.	Merthyr Tydfil	28
Johnson and Johnson Ltd.	Blackwood	146
Kronospan Ltd.	Wrexham	204
Lehane MacKenzie and Shand Ltd.	Bridgend	79
3M United Kingdom Ltd.	Swansea	26
Milk Marketing Board	Wrexham	601
Morganite Special Carbons Ltd.	Swansea	28
National Coal Board	Blackwood	39
National Coal Board	Llantwit Fardre	83
National Coal Board	Neath	44
National Coal Board	Six Bells	43
National Coal Board	Oakdale	47
National Coal Board	Cwm	92
National Coal Board	Llanelli	28
National Coal Board	Neath	31
National Coal Board	Mardy Rhondda	33
National Coal Board	Pengam	36
National Coal Board	Mountain Ash	53
National Coal Board	Bridgend	28
Peters Savoury Products Ltd.	Newport	30
Silent Channel Products Ltd.	Maesteg	28
Star Wrought Products Ltd.	Neath	63
SCOTLAND		
Amalgamated Quarries (Scotland) Ltd.	Stirling	35
Arthur Bell and Sons Ltd.	Broxburn	30
Arthur Bell and Sons Ltd.	Dufftown	113
Arthur Bell and Sons Ltd.	Dunfermline	89
Babcock and Wilcox (Operations) Ltd.	Renfrew	208
Baker Oil Tools (UK) Ltd.	Aberdeen	112
Beecham Research Laboratories	Irvine	103
The Boots Co. Ltd.	Airdrie	35
Bredero Price (UK) Ltd.	Edinburgh	35
The British Silk Dyeing Co. Ltd.	Alexandria	26
British Steel Corporation	Bellshill	445
British Steel Corporation	Cambuslang	54
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell (Dalzell)	59
British Steel Corporation	Motherwell (Ravenscraig)	320
Carruthers, J. H., Co. Ltd.	East Kilbride	29
Cessna Fluid Power Ltd.	Glenrothes	36
Chivas Bros. Ltd.	Paisley	222
Ciba-Geigy (UK) Ltd.	Paisley	60
Chrysler United Kingdom Ltd.	Paisley	229
Collins, Wm., Sons and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	207
The Distillers Co. (Bottling Services) Ltd.	Leven	146
Don Bros. Buist and Co. Ltd.	Forfar (St. James)	33
Don Bros. Buist and Co. Ltd.	Forfar (Canmore)	40
Eglinton Engineering Ltd.	Irvine	32
Elba Growers (Eyemouth) Ltd.	Eyemouth	46
Ethicon Ltd.	Livingston	34
Express Dairy Foods Ltd.	Lockerbie	129
Fenner, J. H., and Co. Ltd.	Kilwinning	40
Ferranti Ltd.	Dalkeith	30
Ferranti Ltd.	Edinburgh	64
Flexible Ducting Ltd.	Glasgow	40
Foster Wheeler John Brown Boilers Ltd.	Dumbarton	74
George Ballantine and Son Ltd.	Elgin	78
George Bassett and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	26
George M. Whiley Ltd.	Livingston	31
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	Cumnock	61
Glaxo Laboratories Ltd.	Montrose	186
The Glenlivet and Glen Grant Distilleries Ltd.	Ballindalloch (Banffshire)	31
Glynwed Baths Ltd.	Falkirk	27
Govan Shipbuilders Ltd.	Glasgow	75
Hiram Walker and Sons (Scotland) Ltd.	Beith	41
Hyster Europe Ltd.	Irvine	73
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Dumfries	71
Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.	Stevenston	27
Imperial Tobacco Ltd.	Glasgow	50
Imperial Tobacco (Ardeer) Ltd.	Stevenston	409
International Distillers and Vintners (Export) Ltd.	Renfrew	27
International Distillers and Vintners (Export) Ltd.	Mulben (Banffshire)	109
Irvine Development Corporation	Irvine	66
JBE Offshore Ltd.	Clydebank	42
John Aird and Co. Ltd.	Darvel	27
John G. Kincaid and Co. Ltd.	Greenock	72
Kerr, J. and W., Group Ltd.	Greenock	46
Laidlaw and Fairgreave Ltd.	Galashiels	30
McDermott Scotland	Ardersier	79
McDonald Electrical (Scotland) Ltd.	East Kilbride	287
Mactaggart Scott and Co. Ltd.	Loanhead	33
Michelin Tyre Co. Ltd.	Dundee	119
Michelin Tyre Co. Ltd.	Aberdeen	29
Model Toys Ltd.	Shotts	29
Motorola Semiconductors Ltd.	East Kilbride	91
Nairn Floors Ltd.	Kirkcaldy	80
National Semiconductor (UK) Ltd.	Greenock	85
National Coal Board	Dalkeith	40
National Coal Board	Glasgow	140
National Coal Board	Kirkcaldy	89
Nobels Explosives Co. Ltd.	Stevenston	104
Redpath Dorman Long (North Sea) Ltd.	Methil	94
Robert Kilgour and Co. Ltd.	Kirkcaldy	41
Rock Fall Co. Ltd.	Barrhead	35
Rothes Town Council	Rothes	39
Scotblair Pelts Ltd.	Kinghorn	34
Scottish Aviation Ltd.	Prestwick	31
Scottish Brick Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	67
Scottish Cables Ltd.	Renfrew	30
Scottish Grain Distillers Ltd.	Glasgow	183
Scottish Malt Distillers Ltd.	Port Askaig (Isle of Islay)	44
Scottish and Newcastle Breweries Ltd.	Edinburgh	79
Scottish Timber Products Ltd.	Stirling	31
Shanks and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	64
Shieldness Produce Ltd.	Bo'ness	31
The Singer Co. (UK) Ltd.	Clydebank	77
Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd.	Dunoon	628
Speaker (Scotland) Ltd.	Glasgow	27
Strathleven Bonded Warehouses Ltd.	Dumbarton	62
Thiokol Chemicals Ltd.	Forfar	63
Thomas Tait and Sons Ltd.	Inverurie	37
Tilling Construction Services Ltd.	Glasgow	27
Timex Corporation	Dundee	32
Tomatin Distillers Co. Ltd.	Tomatin (Inverness-shire)	25
The Tomintoul-Glenlivet Distillery Ltd.	Ballindalloch (Banffshire)	46
Trocoll Industries (Scotland) Ltd.	Irvine	58
Tullis Russell and Co. Ltd.	Markinch	242
Uniroyal Ltd.	Dumfries	26
United Fabrics Ltd.	Livingston	28
United Glass Containers Ltd.	Alloa	239
Weir Group Ltd.	Glasgow	60
Wilkie and Paul Ltd.	Edinburgh	45
William Beardmore and Co. Ltd.	Glasgow	67
William Grant and Sons Ltd.	Girvan	30
William Thyne Ltd.	Aberdeen	39

Grants given in respect of plant provided for use in a Development Area

Company	Address	Grant (£'000)
Bowyer Plant Hire and Transport Ltd.	Birmingham	86
Cementation Construction Ltd.	Croydon	68
Costain Mining Ltd.	Kinglassie (Fife)	45
Derek Crouch Contractors Ltd.	Peterborough	201
Egans (Contractors) Ltd.	Ripley (Derbyshire)	55
George Wimpey and Co. Ltd.	London	108
Gordon, J. and G. T., Ltd.	Choppington (Northumberland)	52
Greenham (Plant Hire) Ltd.	Isleworth	32
Hewden (Plant Hire) Ltd.	Glasgow	32
Leonard Fairclough	Stone	34
National Coal Board	Stoke-on-Trent	26
Northern Strip Mining Ltd.	Sheffield	26
Ogden, A., and Sons Ltd.	Otley	94
Pioneer Plant Hire Ltd.	Blaydon-on-Tyne	33
Potter, T., and Sons Ltd.	Port Talbot	31
Sir Robert McAlpine and Sons Ltd.	London	43
Seymour Plant (Northern) Ltd.	Carlisle	56
Thyssen (Great Britain) Ltd.	Llanelli	111
West Wales Plant Hire Co. Ltd.	Llandeilo	27
William Press and Son Ltd.	London	28

Total of payments listed above £35.0 million.

Total Regional Development Grant paid in the quarter £65.8 million.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842.

Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for August

In August 1975 the current account is estimated to have been in deficit by £260 million. The deficit on trade in goods was £370 million, seasonally adjusted, made up of a deficit of £278 million in trade in oil (that is, petroleum and petroleum products) and a deficit of £92 million in trade in non-oil goods. The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £110 million.

In the three months June to August 1975 the current account deficit totalled £527 million compared with £135 million in the previous three months.

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible balance: trade in goods			Invisible balance
		Petroleum and petroleum products	Other goods	Total	Services and other current transactions
1974	−3,668	−3,423	−1,811	−5,234	+1,566
1974 1st quarter	−849	−760	−515	−1,275	+426
2nd quarter	−918	−874	−433	−1,307	+389
3rd quarter	−830	−870	−336	−1,206	+376
4th quarter	−1,071	−919	−527	−1,446	+375
1975 1st quarter¶	−316	−781	+59	−722	+406
2nd quarter¶	−235	−641	+116	−525	+290
March¶	+16	−206	+87	−119	+135†
April¶	−200	−207	−90	−297	+97†
May¶	+49	−218	+170	−48	+97†
June	−82	−216	+36	−180	+96†
July	−183	−234	−59	−293	+110*
August	−260	−278	−92	−370	+110*
March-May	−135	−631	+167	−464	+329†
June-August	−527	−727	−116	−843	+316*

* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

† One-third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate. Monthly figures of invisibles are not available.

¶ The monthly figures for visible trade in March, April and May were distorted by the industrial dispute at the Port of London.

TABLE 1 Visible trade on balance of payments basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

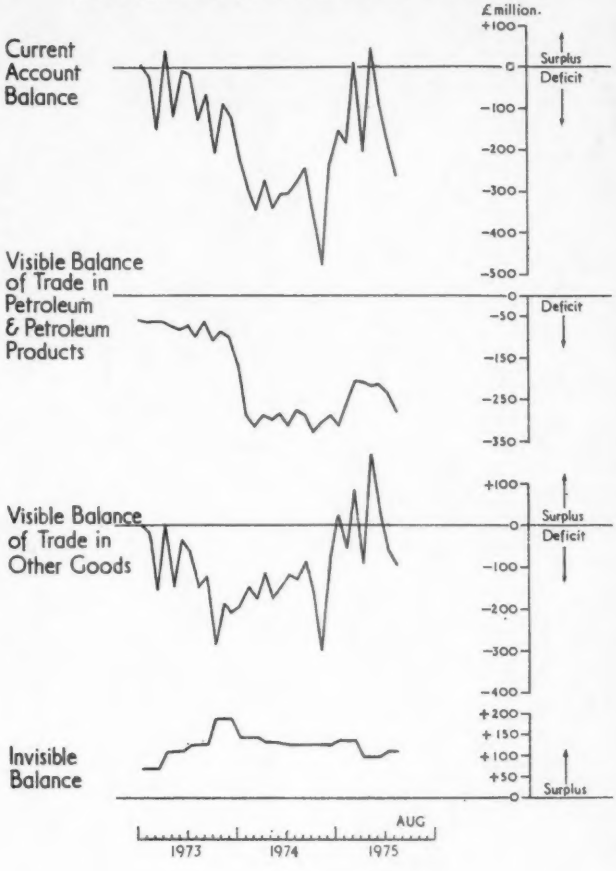
	Exports (fob) r	Imports (fob) r	Visible balance r
1973	11,771	14,066	−2,295
1974	15,886	21,120	−5,234
1973 1st quarter	2,724	3,078	−354
2nd quarter	2,819	3,222	−403
3rd quarter	3,078	3,642	−564
4th quarter	3,150	4,124	−974
1974 1st quarter	3,563	4,838	−1,275
2nd quarter	3,977	5,284	−1,307
3rd quarter	4,239	5,445	−1,206
4th quarter	4,106	5,553	−1,446
1975 1st quarter¶	4,637	5,359	−722
2nd quarter¶	4,479	5,004	−525
1975 March¶	1,568	1,687	−119
April¶	1,393	1,690	−297
May¶	1,616	1,664	−48
June	1,470	1,650	−180
July	1,579	1,872	−293
August p	1,494	1,864	−370
1975 Mar.-May	4,578	5,042	−464
Jun.-Aug. p	4,543	5,386	−843
Percentage change*	−1	+7	

p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates (see Note 1(k)).

¶ The monthly figures for visible trade in March, April and May were distorted by the industrial dispute at the Port of London.

* Percentage change: latest three months on previous three months.

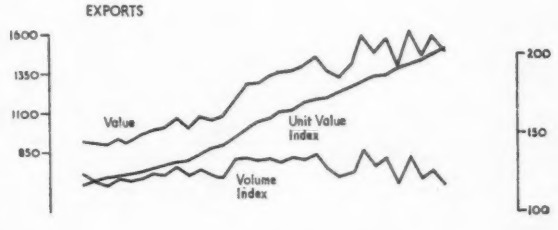
ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT ACCOUNT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM BALANCE OF PAYMENTS



United Kingdom Trade

on a balance of payments basis seasonally adjusted (except Unit Value Index)

Value: £million f.o.b.
Indices 1970 = 100



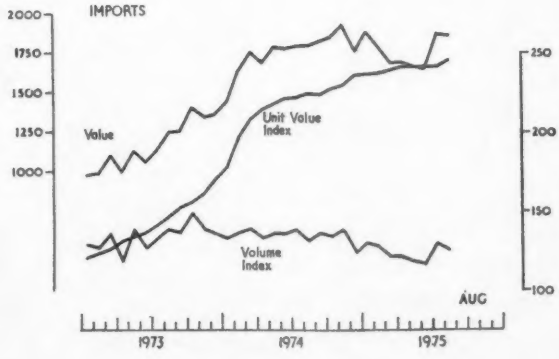


TABLE 2 Invisible trade ¶

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million

	Credits r	Debits r	Invisible balance r
1973	8,303	6,843	+1,460
1974	9,975	8,409	+1,566
1973 1st quarter	1,771	1,567	+204
2nd quarter	2,009	1,684	+325
3rd quarter	2,105	1,739	+366
4th quarter	2,418	1,853	+565
1974 1st quarter	2,446	2,020	+426
2nd quarter	2,457	2,068	+389
3rd quarter	2,450	2,074	+376
4th quarter	2,622	2,247	+375
1975 1st quarter	2,702	2,296	+406
2nd quarter	2,711	2,421	+290
1975 July			+110*
August			+110*

¶ See Note 1(g). r Revised estimates.
* These figures are projections and are subject to revision as the relevant statistical information becomes available.

TABLE 3 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers on a balance of payments basis

Indices 1970 = 100

	Unit values (not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports r	Imports r	Terms of trade† r	Exports r	Imports r
1973	126.0	139.7	90.2	121.8	134.0
1974	162.7	217.3	74.9	130.1	135.4
1973 1st quarter	119.3	123.4	96.7	119.4	130.3
2nd quarter	123.8	133.1	93.0	119.7	128.3
3rd quarter	129.1	146.7	88.0	124.7	136.0
4th quarter	136.1	162.0	84.0	123.6	141.3
1974 1st quarter	147.2	194.5	75.7	129.3	136.6
2nd quarter	159.9	218.4	73.2	132.0	136.0
3rd quarter	168.1	224.2	75.0	134.7	135.9
4th quarter	175.8	231.3	76.0	124.6	132.9
1975 1st quarter	184.9	237.8	77.7	134.0	126.7
2nd quarter	193.4	241.2	80.2	124.3	118.8
1975 March	187.4	239.8	78.1	133.8	121.8
April	191.0	241.4	79.1	117.6	121.6
May	193.3	241.4	80.1	135.0	117.7
June	196.0	240.8	81.4	120.5	117.0
July	199.8	241.8	82.6	124.9	129.7
August p	202.5	245.1	82.6	117.0	125.2
1975 Mar.-May	190.6	240.9	79.1	128.8	120.4
Jun.-Aug. p	199.4	242.6	82.2	120.8	124.0
Percentage change	+4½	+½	+4	−6	+3

† Export Unit Value Index as a percentage of the Import Unit Value Index.
r Revised estimates. p Provisional estimates.

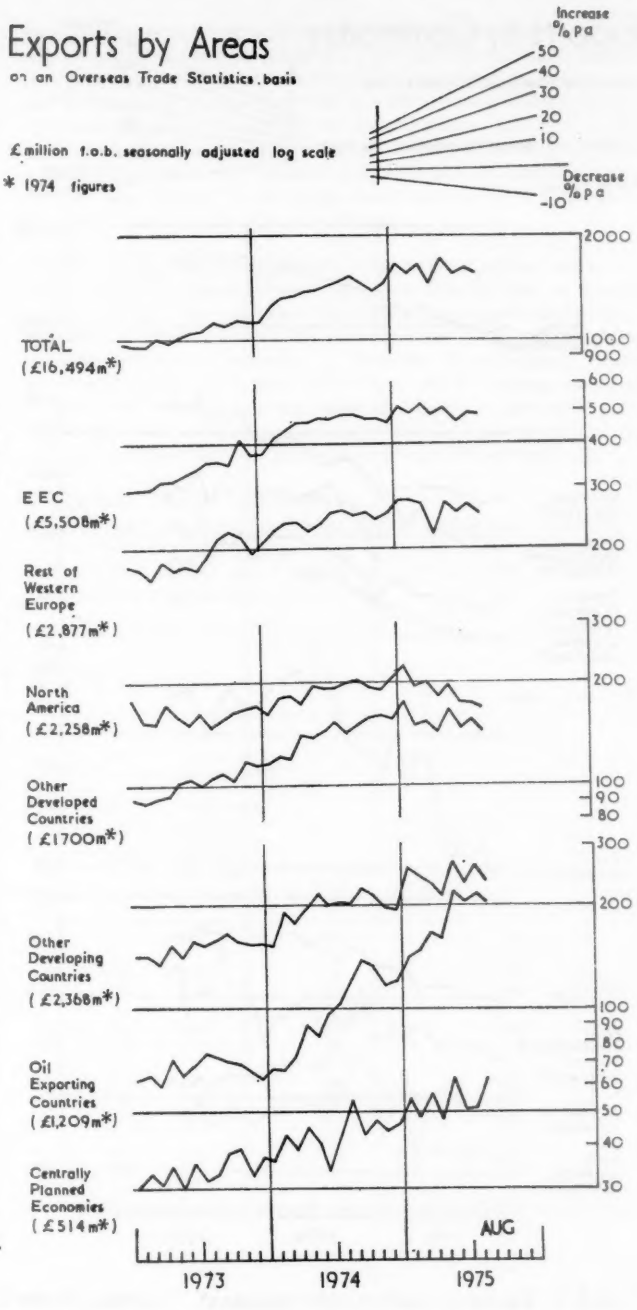
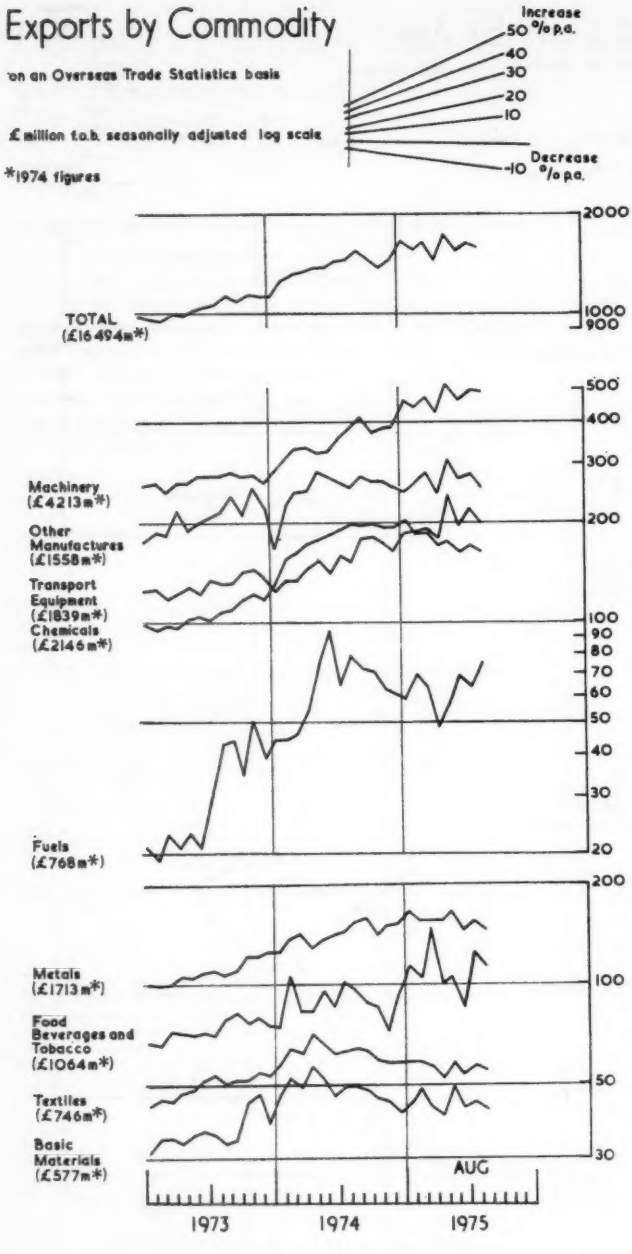


TABLE 4 Exports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

	Total	Developed countries				Developing countries		Centrally planned economies
		EEC	Rest of W Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	
1974	16,494	5,508	2,877	2,258	1,700	1,209	2,368	514
1974 3rd quarter	4,427	1,454	757	592	446	364	629	139
4th quarter	4,284	1,413	747	584	475	369	606	137
1975 1st quarter	4,838	1,520	823	618	479	459	735	158
2nd quarter	4,700	1,475	747	552	458	588	711	161
1975 June	1,537	467	255	175	149	207	232	51
July r	1,641	493	269	174	157	219	261	57
August p	1,576	490	252	170	146	205	238	63
1975 Mar.-May	4,803	1,531	761	579	462	551	715	166
Jun.-Aug. p	4,753	1,451	776	520	452	632	731	171
Percentage change	−1	−5	+2	−10	−2	+15	+2	+3

¶ See Note 1(b) r Revised estimates p Provisional estimates



VISIBLE TRADE

(a) Summary (figures on a Balance of Payments basis) (see Tables 1 and 3)

In August there was a deficit on visible trade of £370 million, seasonally adjusted; the value of exports was £1,494 million and the value of imports was £1,864 million. The visible trade deficit was larger than the deficit of £293 million in July; the value of exports fell between the two months while the value of imports, which included the arrival of two more North Sea oil production installations valued at about £80 million, was little changed. In terms of volume exports fell by 6½ per cent between the two months and imports by 3½ per cent. There was no change in the terms of trade as the unit value index for exports and for imports both rose by 1½ per cent.

In the three months ended August, the deficit on visible trade was £843 million compared with £464 million in the previous three months. The balance on non-oil trade was in deficit by £116 million compared with a surplus of £167 million in the earlier period and the deficit on trade in oil was £727 million compared with £631 million. Almost half of the increase in the oil trade deficit resulted from a sharp rise in imports of crude oil between July and August.

The increase in the visible trade deficit between March-May and June-August resulted from a fall of 1 per cent in the value of exports and a rise of 7 per cent in the value of imports. The volume of exports fell by 6 per cent while the volume of imports rose by 3 per cent. The adverse impact of these volume movements on the visible balance was partly offset by an increase of 4 per cent in the terms of trade resulting from a rise of 4½ per cent in the export unit value index and a rise of ½ per cent in the import unit value index.

(b) Exports (Overseas Trade Statistics basis)

(i) Area analysis (see Table 4). While the value of total exports fell slightly between the three months ended May and the three months ended August, shipments to the developing countries in aggregate continued to expand, rising by 7½ per cent between these two periods. This increase resulted mainly from a 15 per cent rise in the value of goods despatched to the oil exporting countries; shipments to other developing countries were 2 per cent higher. Among the developed countries, exports to which fell by 4 per cent in aggregate, shipments to the EEC were 5 per cent lower, deliveries to the rest of Western Europe rose by 2 per cent and there were reductions of 10 per cent and 2 per cent respectively in exports to North America and the other developed countries taken together (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Japan). Shipments to the centrally planned economies increased by 3 per cent.

(ii) Commodity analysis (see Tables 5, 6 and 7). In the three months June to August the value of exports of manufactures was 1 per cent lower than in the preceding three months, despite a rise of 5 per cent in prices. With the exception of textiles, for which there was a small increase in the volume of exports, all the major commodity groups shared the pattern of a lower volume of shipments

TABLE 5 Exports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million fob

					Manufactures									
						Machinery and transport equipment								
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
1974	16,494	1,064	577	768	13,685	6,052	4,213	1,305	535	2,146	1,713	746	3,027	401
1974 3rd quarter	4,427	286	146	217	3,649	1,648	1,149	341	158	584	455	190	791	99
4th quarter	4,284	252	130	194	3,639	1,655	1,146	371	145	583	443	175	789	107
1975 1st quarter	4,838	373	135	191	4,016	1,923	1 375	414	149	571	472	173	789	119
2nd quarter	4,700	290	131	173	3,973	2,027	1,408	423	191	505	465	162	821	132
1975 June	1,537	85	42	68	1,307	665	464	141	54	162	147	53	269	50
July r	1,641	125	44	64	1,372	711	494	163	59	170	156	57	277	39
August p	1,576	114	42	75	1,302	701	487	146	52	162	146	55	252	43
1975 Mar.-May	4,803	354	131	167	4,014	2,001	1,418	420	188	530	472	165	832	129
Jun.-Aug. p	4,753	324	128	208	3,981	2,077	1,446	449	165	494	449	165	799	132
Percentage change	−1	−8½	−2	+24	−1	+4	+2	+7	−12	−6½	−5	—	−4	+2

¶ See Note 1(b) r Revised estimates p Provisional estimates * Not seasonally adjusted

being partly or wholly offset by increased export prices. Exports of machinery rose by 2 per cent by value in the latest three months, with volume down by 2 per cent and prices up 5 per cent. Deliveries of road motor vehicles (up by 7 per cent by value) and other transport equipment (12 per cent lower by value) together showed a fall in volume more than outweighed by a sharp rise of 10 per cent in price. Exports of semi-manufactured goods declined in value terms, with shipments of chemicals and metals 6½ per cent and 5 per cent lower respectively, but the value of textiles despatched was unchanged. Among non-manufactured goods falls in the value of food and basic materials exported were slightly more than offset by a rise in the value of fuel exports.

(c) Imports (Overseas Trade Statistics Basis)

(i) Commodity Analysis (see Tables 8, 10 and 11). In the three months ended August, there were increases in the value of imports of most of the major commodity groups reflecting widely differing movements in price and volume. The value of imports of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 17 per cent, the result of a sharp rise in volume and a small fall in price, while imports of fuels were 18 per cent higher reflecting mainly a rise in volume but also an increase in price. Imports of industrial materials in total increased by 2 per cent, the outcome of an overall increase in the volume of these imports, reflecting a rise in the volume of chemicals and semi-manufactures and a small decline in the volume of basic materials. For finished manufactures as a whole a 4½ per cent fall in volume was more than offset by a rise in price resulting in a 1 per cent rise in value. Within the group the volume fall was concentrated mainly in machinery, and despite a rise in import prices the value of these imports fell by 2½ per cent between the periods. In contrast higher import prices for road motor vehicles and other transport equipment more than offset a small reduction in their volume and there was an increase in the value of these imports; in particular there was a rise of 11 per cent in the value of imported road motor vehicles.

(ii) Area analysis (see Table 9). Imports from all but one of our major sources increased between the three months June to August and the previous three months. The value of imports from the EEC increased by 4 per cent, from North America by 2½ per cent and from the other developed countries (ie Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Japan) by 12 per cent. Among the developing countries imports from the oil exporting countries rose by 16 per cent while imports from other developing countries were little changed. Imports from the centrally planned economies increased by 20 per cent.

INVISIBLE TRADE (see Table 2)

The balance on services and other current transactions is estimated to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £110 million with monthly credits and debits of the order of £900 million and £800 million respectively.

TABLE 6 Exports: volume indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
Weights	1,000	64	34	26	844	410	276	134	97	119	49	169
1974	132.9	142	115	101	135	125	127	120	169	116	125	154
1974 3rd quarter	138.7	150	106	113	139	134	135	131	173	113	120	158
4th quarter	127.7	125	98	101	132	126	127	124	163	112	104	151
1975 1st quarter	138.0	171	103	95	137	136	142	130	157	116	102	146
2nd quarter	128.5	132	101	85	131	136	138	132	137	108	100	143
1975 June	124.2	115	96	98	127	131	135	120	132	101	100	139
July	128.2	141	102	91	131	138	143	137	138	104	103	138
August p	121.6	138	99	98	122	132	135	116	131	99	99	123
1975 Mar.-May	133.2	156	101	86	134	137	141	135	143	112	100	147
Jun.-Aug. p	124.9	131	99	96	127	134	138	124	134	101	101	133
Percentage change	−6	−16	−2½	+12	−5½	−2	−2	−7½	−6½	−10	+1	−10

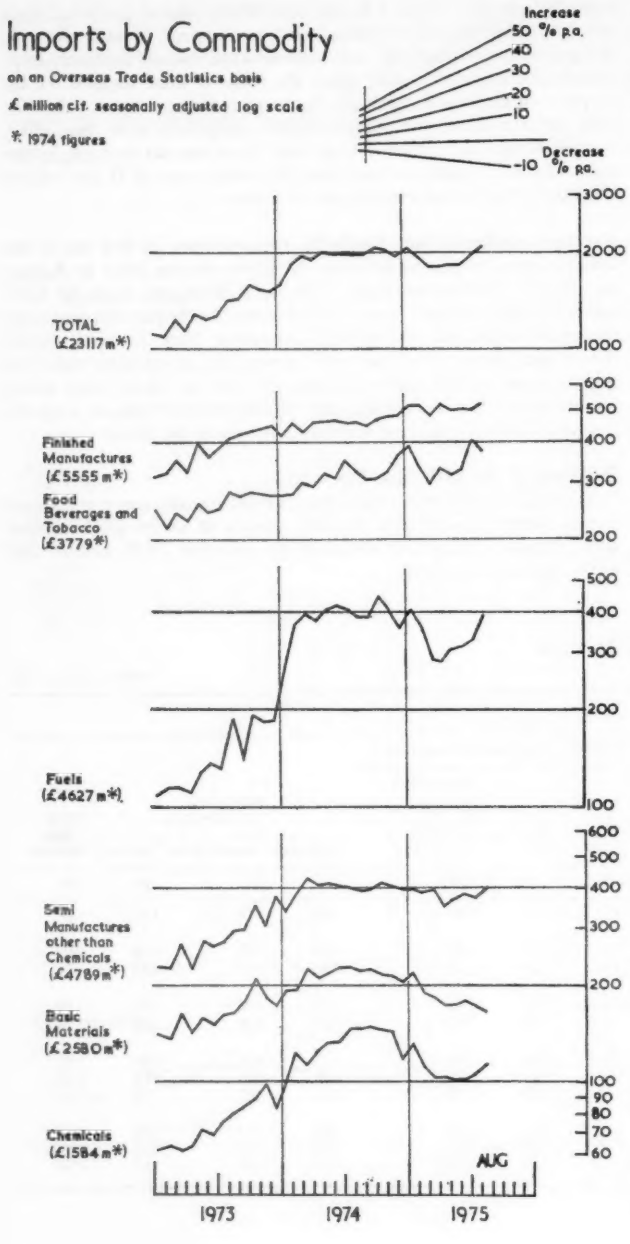
p Provisional estimates

TABLE 7 Exports: unit value indices Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Chemicals	Metals and miscellaneous metal manufactures	Textiles	Other manufactures
1974	160.7	148	181	381	155	153	155	149	169	164	159	146
1974 3rd quarter	167.4	154	197	385	162	158	162	150	179	177	166	150
4th quarter	174.9	157	193	395	170	168	172	160	191	179	175	157
1975 1st quarter	184.1	166	192	416	179	179	182	172	200	184	178	163
2nd quarter	192.6	176	199	421	188	190	192	185	209	189	177	172
1975 June	195.1	180	200	421	190	194	194	193	208	191	177	175
July	198.1	181	197	428	194	198	196	201	209	192	177	180
August p	201.5	184	198	443	197	202	203	200	209	194	177	184
1975 Mar.-May	189.8	173	196	418	185	186	189	180	208	187	177	169
Jun.-Aug. p	198.3	182	199	431	194	198	198	198	209	192	177	180
Percentage change	+4½	+5	+1	+3	+5	+6½	+5	+10	+½	+2½	—	+6½

p Provisional estimates



NOTES

1(a) Trade figures on a Balance of Payments basis. The seasonally adjusted import and export figures on a Balance of Payments basis are obtained by making various adjustments to the seasonally adjusted figures derived from those recorded in the monthly *Overseas Trade Statistics*. These adjustments are summarised in Table 13 of this article. Some are valuation adjustments; the principal of these is the deduction from the import figure of freight and insurance costs. The other adjustments relate to coverage, either to bring in items not in the Trade Statistics (for example on the import side ships built and delivered abroad direct to UK owners) or to remove items which are in the Trade Statistics (mainly returned goods and goods for processing and repair). The adjustment of imports to a balance of payments basis excludes the values of deliveries of US military aircraft (including spares and some missiles) but includes the payments for those imports which are mainly being financed by a special Exim Bank credit (the values involved are now small). All these adjustments are described in greater detail in the annual '*Pink Book*' *United Kingdom Balance of Payments 1964-74* (Table 6 and pages 64-67) and in an article in the issue of *Trade and Industry* dated 4 November 1970.

Since firm figures for the adjustments do not become available as quickly as the recorded trade statistics, the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis in the latest months are at this stage preliminary estimates and liable to revision.

1(b). The adjustments described at Note 1(a) are made only for the monthly totals of exports and imports (Table 1) and the monthly figures of trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 12). They are not estimated for the area and other commodity analyses of trade. The values of total trade and the main components of exports and imports in Tables 4 to 11 are available only on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis. Whereas comment on total trade and trade in petroleum and petroleum products relates to figures for exports and imports on a balance of payments basis, analyses of the area and other commodity patterns of trade in this article are based on the figures on the Overseas Trade Statistics basis in Tables 4 to 11. The main components of trade are seasonally adjusted independently from the totals and in consequence do not always add exactly to the seasonally adjusted totals.

1(c) Visible balance. The visible balance is the difference between the import and export figures on a balance of payments basis obtained as described in Note 1(a) above. Since, as noted above, the import and export figures for the most recent months are provisional, it follows that the monthly visible balances for these months are also provisional and liable to revision.

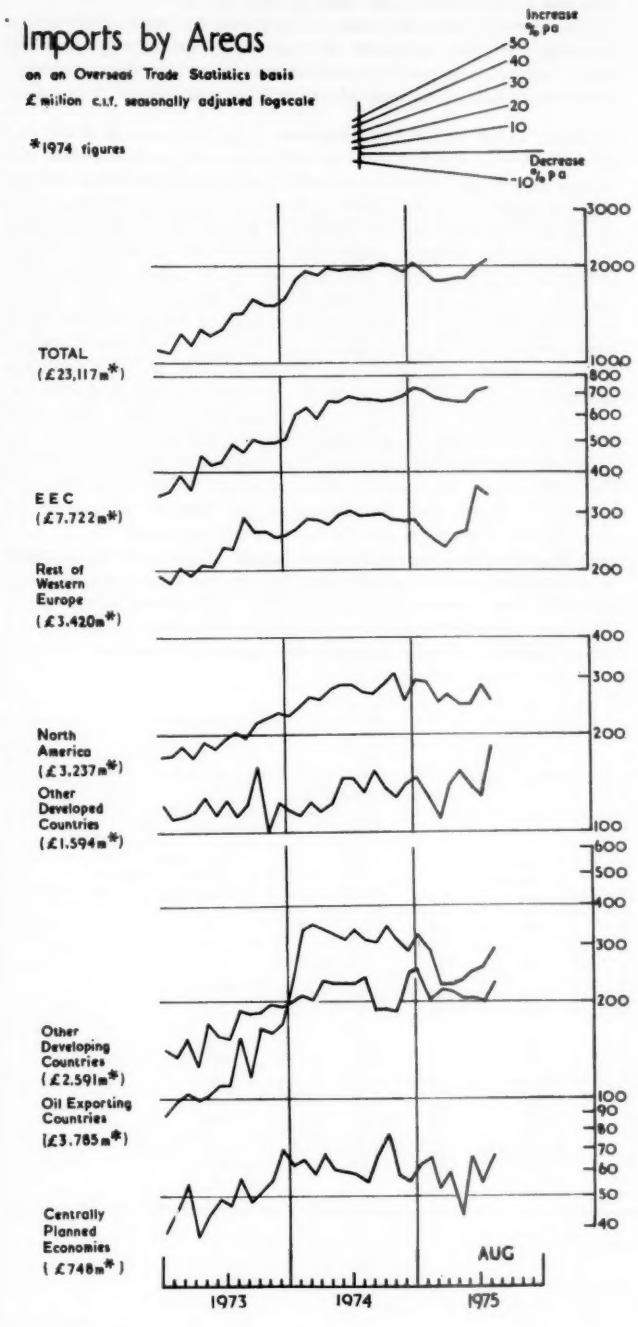
The monthly figures for the visible balance are published only on a seasonally adjusted basis. Since the balance is the difference of two large and variable figures, it is itself liable to fluctuation and undue significance should not be attached to a single month's figure; it is more useful to consider the average balance over three or more months.

TABLE 8 Imports: commodity classes¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — £ million cif

			Industrial materials				Finished manufactures						
								Machinery and transport equipment					
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles	Other transport equipment*	Other	Miscellaneous
1974	23,117	3,779	4,627	8,953	2,580	1,584	4,789	5,555	3,902	2,969	645	287	1,653	203
1974 3rd quarter	5,926	988	1,184	2,310	673	445	1,192	1,381	980	723	181	66	401	50
4th quarter	5,985	1,005	1,207	2,266	635	412	1,219	1,443	1,030	772	170	87	414	55
1975 1st quarter	5,825	1,041	1,058	2,133	594	350	1,189	1,531	1,090	805	185	96	442	80
2nd quarter	5,437	982	895	1,937	527	307	1,103	1,529	1,091	786	227	71	438	96
1975 June	1,821	330	312	666	180	102	384	503	355	257	77	22	148	26
July r	1,988	406	323	650	173	107	371	500	352	255	75	28	148	131
August p	2,092	379	395	680	166	113	400	524	370	262	82	18	154	115
1975 Mar.-May	5,420	954	871	1,956	530	308	1,118	1,510	1,078	795	210	76	432	98
Jun.-Aug. p	5,901	1,115	1,030	1,996	519	322	1,155	1,528	1,078	774	234	68	450	272
Percentage change	+9	+17	+18	+2	−2	+4½	+3½	+1	–	−2½	+11	−10	+4	+178

¶See Note 1(b). r Revised estimates p Provisional estimates * Not seasonally adjusted



1(d) Trends. Even after allowing for seasonal influences, the sequence of monthly figures is usually too variable to give a satisfactory indication of the underlying trend. While it is possible to construct elaborate estimates of trend these cannot be applied to the most recent months, and a simple method of giving some guidance on underlying movements in the most recent past is to take averages of three months. Apart from occasions when major disturbances distort the flows of trade, the three-monthly average gives a quite good short-term guide and has the merit of simplicity.

1(e) Recording of exports. The present system for the documentation of exports aimed at securing their full recording was introduced in October 1971; the system, and the methods used to monitor the accuracy of the resulting figures, were described in an article in *Trade and Industry*, 15 February 1973.

Regular assessments of the quality of recording had indicated that, since the beginning of 1972, there had been no need to make adjustments to the export figures for a shortfall in documentation. As the above article indicated, some errors in recording remained, whereby either the need to submit a document was overlooked or, on the other hand, two documents might be submitted for the same goods. The effect of these errors had been substantially reduced under the present system so that the small elements of under- and over-recording more or less balanced out, leaving the total recorded figure of exports in each month virtually correct.

Since the autumn of 1973, however, there has been evidence of a slight deterioration causing a small net amount of under-recording. The sums involved have been very small, amounting to only about half of one per cent, that is around £6 million or £7 million a month. The monitoring of the export documentation in any month takes some time to carry out, so the available evidence extends only to about four months ago. It has been provisionally assumed that an adjustment of the same amount is warranted for more recent months, and it will be continued until the evidence suggests otherwise. Meanwhile, HM Customs and Excise are taking further action to improve the lodgment of documents.

In view of the evidence at hand, an adjustment of £6 million to £7 million has now been made for each month from October 1973, with smaller notional sums in July to September 1973. The adjustment (which is included in the coverage adjustments described at Note 1(a)) amounted to £92 million in the 12-monthly period ended August 1975.

1(f) Timing. The figures for exports relate to documents received in the Statistical Office of HM Customs and Excise up to a few days before the end of the calendar month. On average export documents arrive at the Customs Statistical Office within a fortnight of the shipment of goods, so that the documents relate to goods passing through the ports in the month ending about the middle of the calendar month to which they are attributed. The figures for imports relate to documents received at the Customs Statistical Office up to the third working day after the end of the month. Importers are usually required to present their documents before they can obtain Customs clearance and remove the goods. Thus the import statistics correspond closely to movements through the ports during the calendar month to which they are attributed.

1(g) Invisible trade (services and other current transactions) covers the following items: Government services and transfer payments; all other services including sea and air transport, travel,

TABLE 9 Imports: areas¶ Overseas Trade Statistics basis
Seasonally adjusted values

£ million cif

	Total	Developed countries				Developing countries		Centrally planned economies
		EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Oil exporting countries	Other	
1974	23,117	7,722	3,420	3,237	1,594	3,785	2,591	748
1974 3rd quarter	5,926	2,037	882	824	437	956	658	181
4th quarter	5,986	2,020	858	854	409	940	624	191
1975 1st quarter	5,825	2,128	794	840	389	837	673	184
2nd quarter	5,437	1,993	756	761	426	705	621	168
1975 June	1,821	662	262	249	138	247	204	66
July r	1,988	708	362	282	129	253	200	54
August p	2,092	726	341	252	182	292	229	67
1975 Mar.-May	5,420	2,017	744	764	399	682	636	156
Jun.-Aug. p	5,901	2,096	965	783	449	792	633	187
Percentage change	+9	+4	+30	+2½	+12	+16	−½	+20

¶ See Note 1(b) r Revised estimates p Provisional estimates

and insurance, banking and other financial transactions; overseas income in the form of interest, profits and dividends; and private transfers. The monthly figures are inevitably less precise than those for visible trade for several reasons: the data are not available on a monthly basis (some are reported quarterly, others less frequently) and the figures are, therefore, essentially projections based on past trends though subject to modification for special factors (eg interest payments on the $2,500 million loan to HM Government, timing of quarterly EEC contributions and receipts) which affect the trend; revisions, affecting particularly gross credits and debits, but often the balance as well, are more frequent; and the gross figures themselves include a number of items which are appropriately recorded as the net profit or surplus arising on the transactions.

1(h) Trade in petroleum and petroleum products. Trade in petroleum and petroleum products (Table 12) accounts for almost all the trade in Fuels, Section 3 of SITC(R) which is included in Tables 5 and 8. Import figures are shown for crude oil and for the rest of the division which includes petroleum partly refined for further refining and petroleum products (eg motor spirit, lamp oil and white spirit, distillate fuels, residual fuel oils, lubricating oils and greases, etc.).

The figures of value and tonnage of crude oil imports in Table 12 are based on reports to HM Customs and Excise and have been seasonally adjusted with the same seasonal and length of month factors as have been used for the Fuels totals in Tables 5 and 8. These figures cannot be directly compared with the monthly import tonnages originating from the Department of Energy which are published in the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* and the *Digest of Energy Statistics*, as the latter are based on reports received directly from the oil industry and are unadjusted. Over longer periods the differences between the two sources are largely resolved.

The average value of crude oil per ton has been obtained by dividing the value of crude oil imports by the tonnage and will reflect not only changes in price but also changes in the commodity mix of imports due, for example, to differing qualities of crude oil.

1(i) Unit value and volume indices. A brief description of the way in which the index numbers on a balance of payments basis are calculated was published in the article giving unit value and volume index numbers for March 1971 in *Trade and Industry* of 26 May 1971. An article was published in *Trade and Industry* on 11 October 1973 introducing the series of import and export unit value and volume indices with 1970 = 100. The purpose of the index numbers is to measure the changes in price and volume of our imports and exports. Index numbers can be constructed in various ways, and the series used here are of the fixed base type. Thus, the unit value indices measure changes in 'price' of a fixed selection of trade headings (although in practice it is not specific prices which are measured but the average price of all the varying transactions taking place each month in the selected headings, reflecting different kinds of goods covered by each heading and different markets or sources of supply). Correspondingly, the volume indices measure, for the same selection of trade headings, what the change in the value of trade would be assuming no changes in the prices charged from those in the base year. Because the indices are base weighted, they do not take account of the changes in the pattern of trade since the base year, and consequently their product does not precisely account for the change in the value of trade expressed as an index. In practice, though, since the composition of trade changes little between consecutive months,

TABLE 10 Imports: volume indices
Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Seasonally adjusted values — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
Weights	1,000	227	105	427	151	60	216	229	166	133	33	63
1974	133.4	99	106	129	93	151	147	189	188	188	192	191
1974 3rd quarter	134.0	102	105	128	91	162	144	187	188	182	197	185
4th quarter	130.3	97	105	125	89	143	145	183	187	183	200	172
1975 1st quarter	124.0	94	91	117	85	119	139	181	183	178	206	177
2nd quarter	116.5	90	80	109	78	107	131	173	172	163	206	177
1975 June	116.3	91	83	114	81	109	137	167	164	157	201	173
July	121.9	108	84	109	76	114	130	161	156	148	198	175
August p	125.8	105	96	109	72	116	134	170	166	153	197	180
1975 Mar.-May	116.5	86	78	108	77	105	131	174	173	167	202	177
Jun.-Aug. p	121.3	101	88	111	76	113	134	166	162	153	199	176
Percentage change	+4	+18	+12	+2	−1	+8	+2	−4½	−6½	−8½	−1½	−½

p Provisional estimates.

TABLE 11 Imports: unit value indices
Overseas Trade Statistics basis

Not seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport equipment			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road motor vehicles and other transport equipment	Other
1974	210.3	193	468	190	208	207	172	152	147	143	163	164
1974 3rd quarter	216.2	193	482	197	218	217	177	158	152	148	168	173
4th quarter	222.3	202	494	199	219	230	177	166	159	155	174	185
1975 1st quarter	230.1	218	509	200	217	240	177	174	168	164	183	191
2nd quarter	231.9	219	506	198	213	236	177	186	181	179	191	197
1975 June	232.0	218	508	197	211	229	178	189	185	182	199	200
July	234.5	217	519	197	211	229	179	195	191	189	202	205
August p	237.6	217	536	199	212	229	182	197	192	189	206	208
1975 Mar.-May	231.8	222	505	199	215	240	177	182	177	174	187	195
Jun.-Aug. p	234.7	217	521	198	211	229	180	194	190	186	202	204
Percentage change	+1½	−2	+3½	−½	−2	−4½	+2	+6½	+7½	+7	+8½	+5

p Provisional estimates.

the product of the changes in the indices will often approximate to the change in the value of trade between one month and the next. A full methodological article about the 1970-based series of indices was published in the April issue of *Economic Trends*. Adjustments have been made to the import volume index to include North Sea oil production installations, however no changes have been made to the base-weighted unit value index.

1(j) Definition of areas. The areas used in Tables 4 and 9 of this article are defined in *Trade and Industry*, 20 February 1975.

1(k) Revisions to trade figures on a balance of payments basis The figures for visible trade given in this article have been revised to take account of changes to the adjustment which is made to the import and export figures on an overseas trade statistics basis to exclude goods imported for processing and repair and subsequently re-exported without suffering a change of ownership. Hitherto the adjustment has been based on traders' claims for duty relief. In 1973 the aggregate of these claims grew disproportionately, apparently as a result of a change in Customs regulations arising from our entry into the European Economic Community. Investigations revealed that many of the goods for which duty relief was applicable were suffering a change of ownership, ie were entering into the ownership of the UK importers for subsequent re-export and should not, therefore, be excluded from the balance of payments figures. Further investigations are proceeding to establish a more appropriate method of identifying goods which do not change ownership and, as an interim measure, the adjustment is being kept at the same proportionate level as at the beginning of 1973. Since the adjustment represents an equal deduction from both imports and exports on an overseas trade statistics basis the figures for imports and exports on a balance of payments basis for 1973 and onwards have been revised upwards with consequent effects on the volume indices. There has been no effect to the balance of trade as a result of this revision.

2. Overseas Trade Statistics

Detailed particulars of United Kingdom imports and exports for August with cumulative totals will be published on 25 September† and further analysis of the figures will be found in Tables 122 to 140 in the Monthly Digest for September‡, due to be published in the second week of October.

† Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom, published by HMSO, price £3.50 (Annual subscription £45.96).

‡ Monthly Digest of Statistics, published by HMSO, price £1.20 (Annual subscription including Supplement of Definitions and postage £16.38).

TABLE 12 Trade in petroleum and petroleum products¶ On a Balance of Payments basis (Division 33 of SITC(R))

Seasonally adjusted

	Balance of visible trade	Imports					Exports
		Total	Crude oil			Rest of Division 33	Total
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	Million tons	Average value per ton £ fob	£ million fob	£ million fob
1973	−941	1,281	941	111.5	8.4	340	340
1974	−3,423	4,119	3,342	109.4	30.6	777	696
1973 1st quarter	−188	244	171	24.6	7.0	73	56
2nd quarter	−220	278	205	27.9	7.4	73	58
3rd quarter	−237	347	242	30.4	8.0	105	110
4th quarter	−296	413	324	28.6	11.3	89	117
1974 1st quarter r	−760	889	722	29.0	24.8	167	129
2nd quarter r	−874	1,080	891	28.0	32.0	189	206
3rd quarter r	−870	1,063	854	26.1	32.9	209	193
4th quarter	−919	1,087	874	26.3	33.4	213	168
1975 1st quarter	−781	939	749	21.9	34.2	189	158
2nd quarter r	−641	791	654	19.3	33.7	137	150
1975 June	−216	277	231	6.8	33.8	45	61
July	−234	292	237	6.9	34.3	55	58
August p	−278	348	290	8.1	36.0	58	70
1975 Mar.-May	−631	771	624	18.5	33.6	147	140
Jun.-Aug. p	−727	916	757	21.8	34.7	159	189
Percentage change		+19	+21	+18	+3½	+7½	+35

¶ See Note 1(h). p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

TABLE 13 Derivation of the balance of payments

£ million

	EXPORTS				IMPORTS				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted*			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted*			
	Overseas Trade statistics basis (fob)	Overseas Trade statistics basis (fob)	Coverage adjustments r	Balance of payments basis (fob) r	Overseas Trade statistics basis (cif)	Overseas Trade statistics basis (cif)	Adjustments to BOP basis: Valuation adjustments r	Adjustments to BOP basis: Coverage adjustments r	Balance of payments basis r
1973	12,454.3	12,454	−683	11,771	15,839.8	15,840	−1,376	−398	14,066
1974	16,494.3	16,494	−608	15,886	23,116.7	23,117	−1,652	−344	21,120
1973 1st quarter	2,827.7	2,875	−151	2,724	3,568.9	3,442	−308	−56	3,078
2nd quarter	3,074.7	2,996	−177	2,819	3,722.5	3,668	−329	−117	3,222
3rd quarter	3,056.1	3,234	−157	3,078	3,939.6	4,129	−353	−134	3,642
4th quarter	3,496.5	3,350	−199	3,150	4,623.4	4,601	−386	−91	4,124
1974 1st quarter	3,583.4	3,687	−124	3,563	5,332.1	5,349	−429	−81	4,838
2nd quarter	4,199.4	4,096	−119	3,977	5,994.9	5,857	−425	−148	5,284
3rd quarter	4,215.7	4,427	−188	4,239	5,762.1	5,926	−402	−79	5,445
4th quarter	4,495.8	4,284	−178	4,106	6,027.7	5,985	−396	−36	5,553
1975 1st quarter	4,559.1	4,838	−201	4,637	5,807.3	5,825	−407	−59	5,359
2nd quarter	4,915.4	4,700	−221	4,479	5,813.4	5,437	−363	−70	5,004
1975 March	1,517.5	1,639	−71	1,568	1,748.5	1,804	−122	+5	1,687
April	1,584.7	1,462	−68	1,393	2,038.7	1,807	−119	+3	1,690
May	1,765.3	1,702	−86	1,616	1,875.4	1,809	−117	−28	1,664
June	1,575.0	1,537	−67	1,470	1,953.6	1,821	−126	−46	1,650
July	1,774.1	1,641	−61	1,579	2,187.7	1,988	−146	+30	1,872
August p.	1,374.7	1,576	−82	1,494	1,878.0	2,092	−150	−77	1,864
1975 Mar.-May	4,867.5	4,803	−225	4,578	5,662.6	5,420	−358	−20	5,042
Jun.-Aug. p	4,723.8	4,753	−210	4,543	6,019.3	5,901	−422	−93	5,386
Percentage change	−3	−1		−1	+6½	+9			+7

* Components and totals are rounded independently. p = provisional estimates. r = revised estimates (see Note 1(k)).

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The following titles and issues of Business Monitor are now available:

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PQ 413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made fibres for first quarter 1975
PQ 414	Woollen and worsted for first quarter 1975
PQ 419	Carpets for first quarter 1975
PQ 422.2	Canvas goods and sacks and other made-up textiles for first quarter 1975
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PQ 472	Wooden furniture and upholstery for first quarter 1975
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SD 8	Instalment credit business of retailers for July 1975

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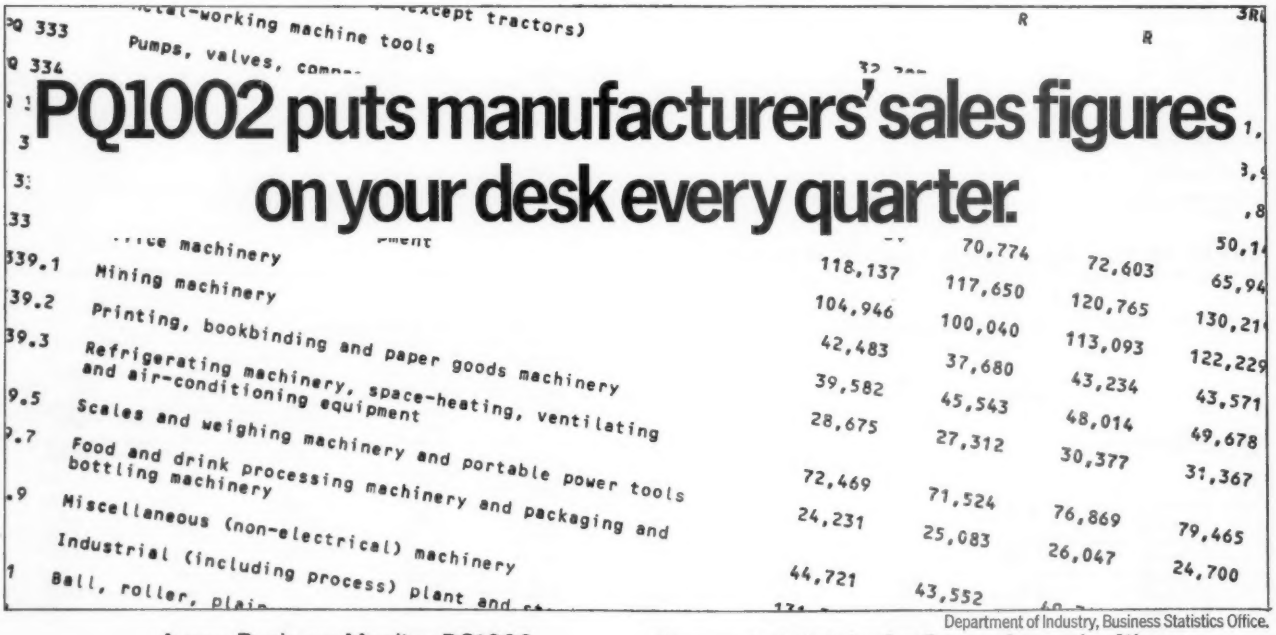
M 6	Overseas travel and tourism for first quarter 1975

Business Monitors in the Production series and Miscellaneous series, and certain Monitors (Nos. SD 1 to SD 9) in the Service and Distributive series, are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2973; telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from



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The Annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available) can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Index of retail prices for August

The index of retail prices for all items for 12 August 1975 was 139.3 (15 January 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.6 per cent on July (138.5) and of 26.9 per cent on August 1974 (109.8).

The rise in the index in August was due to increases in the prices of milk, second-hand cars, clothing and some other goods and services which were only partly offset by reductions in the prices of tomatoes, potatoes and some other fresh vegetables and in the average charge for renting television sets.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in Table 2.

TABLE 1

	All items			All items except seasonal food		
	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 12 months	Index 15 January 1974 = 100	Percentage change over 1 month	Percentage change over 6 months
1975						
March	124.3	+2.0	+21.2	124.8	+1.9	+11.9
April	129.1	+3.9	+21.7	129.4	+3.7	+13.8
May	134.5	+4.2	+25.0	134.8	+4.2	+16.6
June	137.1	+1.9	+26.1	137.1	+1.7	+16.8
July	138.5	+1.0	+26.3	138.5	+1.0	+14.9
August	139.3	+0.6	+26.9	139.7	+0.9	+14.0

TABLE 2

	Indices (15 January 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	15 July 1975	12 August 1975	
All items	138.5	139.3	+0.6
All items excluding food	139.2	140.3	+0.8
Food	136.3	136.3	Nil
Seasonal food	140.2	131.7	−6.1
Other food	135.7	137.5	+1.3
Alcoholic drink	141.8	143.5	+1.2
Tobacco	158.7	158.8	+0.1
Housing	129.3	130.5	+0.9
Fuel and light	154.9	155.0	+0.1
Durable household goods	134.2	135.2	+0.7
Clothing and footwear	125.7	127.6	+1.5
Transport and vehicles	145.9	148.2	+1.6
Miscellaneous goods	141.4	142.4	+0.7
Services	140.4	137.8	−1.9
Meals out	135.4	136.6	+0.9

Retail sales: provisional estimates for August

Volume

The *provisional* estimate of the seasonally adjusted index of the volume of retail sales in August is 105 (1971 = 100), suggesting a level similar to both June and July.

Taking July and August together, the average monthly volume of sales was 5 per cent below the average in the first half of the year. However, the distortions to the pattern of trade resulting from the April Budget make difficult an assessment of the underlying level in the volume of trade in the most recent months.

Value

Based on non-seasonally adjusted data, the *provisional* estimate of the value of total retail sales in August was 17 per cent higher than in August 1974. In the first eight months of 1975, the value of sales was 21 per cent above the corresponding period of 1974.

Retail sales: Volume Seasonally adjusted index (1971 = 100)		Retail sales: Value Not seasonally adjusted – percentage change compared with a year earlier	
1974 1st quarter	109.8	1974 1st quarter	+11
2nd quarter	107.3	2nd quarter	+15
3rd quarter	111.0	3rd quarter	+18
4th quarter	111.6	4th quarter	+18
1975 1st quarter	111.5	1975 1st quarter	+22
2nd quarter	108.7	2nd quarter	+24
1974 May	105.6	1974 May	+14
June	108.2	June	+15
July	109.2	July	+16
August	111.4	August	+18
1975 May	102.5	1975 May	+19
June	104.5	June	+20
July	104.7	July	+19
August	105 (prov.)	August	+17 (prov.)

Notes

The volume index is given to the nearest ½ per cent. The percentage increase in value compared with a year earlier is given to the nearest whole number.

A detailed note on the method of computation of the provisional estimates was published in *Trade and Industry* on 21 February 1974.

When using the volume figures, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which volume changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The provisional figures are made available by press notice in advance of this article. The final figures for August will be published in a press notice on Monday, 6 October 1975.

New companies registered

Below are details of new companies registered in Great Britain during August 1975 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

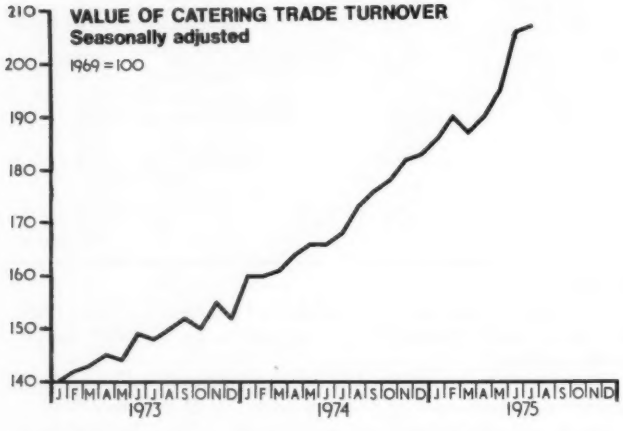
Nominal capital	Total	Public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	1,983	—	1,983
Over £100 but under £1,000	72	—	72
£1,000 but under £10,000	784	—	784
£10,000 but under £50,000	311	—	311
£50,000 but under £100,000	64	—	64
£100,000 but under £1,000,000	46	—	46
£1,000,000 and over	7	—	7
Total number	3,267	—	3,267
	£ thous.	£ thous.	£ thous.
Total amount of nominal capital	47,668	—	47,668

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1974 and 1975

	1974		1975	
	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.	Number	Nominal capital £ thous.
January	4,758	27,824	3,648	18,631
February	2,870	81,582	3,442	22,886
March	3,393	21,763	3,440	28,511
April	3,679	50,557	4,944	24,352
May	3,878	36,111	4,248	42,314
June	3,329	29,037	3,468	20,856
July	3,730	32,961	3,752	26,703
August	3,274	37,822	3,267	47,668
September	3,214	36,037		
October	3,481	25,421		
November	3,115	36,422		
December	3,039	21,298		
Total	41,760	436,835		

Turnover of the catering trades in July

The total turnover of the catering trades in the three months' period May to July 1975 was 7 per cent more than in the preceding three months, at current prices and after allowing for normal seasonal adjustments. This is a continuation of the rather faster rate of increase than in earlier months which was evident last month.



Recent percentage increases compared with a year earlier (*not* seasonally adjusted) for the main kinds of business are as follows:

		All caterers	Licensed hotels and holiday camps	Restaurants cafes and fish and chip shops	Public houses	Canteens
1975	1st quarter	19	17	15	21	18
	2nd quarter	19	16	14	22	17
	July	23	17	20	26	19

Turnover for all caterers in the three months May to July 1975 was 22 per cent more than in the same period a year ago. The largest increase was of 25 per cent for public houses (the largest component of the all-caterers index). Restaurants, cafes, and fish and chip shops increased their turnover by 18 per cent, hotels reported an increase of 17 per cent and canteens an increase of 16 per cent.

TABLE 1 Turnover of all caterers seasonally adjusted

Index numbers of turnover per week (†) 1969 = 100

		Value at current prices (turnover in 1969 – £2,533 million)
1969		100
1970		108
1971		118
1972		131
1973		148
1974		170
1971	1st quarter	115
	2nd quarter	117
	3rd quarter	119
	4th quarter	122
1972	1st quarter	125
	2nd quarter	128
	3rd quarter	133
	4th quarter	138
1973	1st quarter	142
	2nd quarter	146
	3rd quarter	150
	4th quarter	152
1974	1st quarter	160
	2nd quarter	165
	3rd quarter	173
	4th quarter	181
1975	1st quarter	188
	2nd quarter	198
1974	October	178
	November	183 r
	December*	183
1975	January*	187
	February	190
	March*	188
	April	191 r
	May	195
	June*	206
	July	207
1975	February-April	189
1975	May-July	203
Percentage increase		7

† The monthly periods consist of 4 weeks except those marked * which are of 5 weeks. The July 1975 period was the 4 weeks from 6 July 1975 to 2 August 1975; the July 1974 period was the 4 weeks from 30 June 1974 to 27 July 1974. The series are provisionally rebased using the broad results of the large scale inquiry into the catering trades for 1969. The detailed results of this inquiry will be incorporated in a final rebasing in due course. A full report on the 1969 inquiry was published in November 1972 under the title 'Catering Trades 1969: Statistical Inquiry' (HMSO 32p net).

r = Revised figure.

Registrations of British, Community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 12 September 1975.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
Sex Express	BR/E 38244/13/9/80	50	12 September	Variety Film Distributors Ltd.	Blackwater Film Productions Ltd.
Movietone News 2414	BR/E 38129/13/9/80	8	12 September	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
The Twelve Chairs	F 38237	94	8 September	Seven Keys Ltd.	UMC Pictures, New York
Operation Undercover	F 38238	112	10 September	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Frankovich Productions Inc., California
Pieces Of Dreams	F 38239	99	10 September	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	RFB Enterprises Inc., California
Smile	F 38240	113	10 September	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Two Roads Production Inc., California
Marjoe	F 38241	92	10 September	Pleasant Pastures Ltd.	Howard Smith and Sarah Kernochan, New York
Nashville	F 38242	161	11 September	Cinema International Corporation (UK)	ABC Entertainment Inc., New York
Anita	F 38243	94	12 September	Variety Film Distributors Ltd.	Swedish Film Production International AB

Amendment to the Register

The registration number of the film 'Blood Money', registered on 10 April 1975, has been amended to EC 38052/12/4/80, and the maker's name to Compagnia Cinem Champion, Rome, and Midega Film, Madrid.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	16 May 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	This week
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	24 Oct. 1974
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
Catering trades turnover (M)	This week
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	13 June 1975
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	15 Aug. 1975
insolvencies (Q)	1 Aug. 1975
liquidity (Q)	12 Sept. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	This week
N. Ireland (M)	5 Sept. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	22 Aug. 1975
EEC economic indicators	29 Aug. 1975
Energy trends (M)	5 Sept. 1975
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	22 Aug. 1975
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	5 Sept. 1975
cinema admissions and takings (M)	5 Sept. 1975
overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
registrations of films (A)	6 Feb. 1975
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	2 May 1975
household consumption (Q)	4 July 1975
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	This week
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	12 Sept. 1975
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	8 Aug. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	12 Sept. 1975
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	22 Aug. 1975
N. Ireland index (M)	25 July 1975
Insolvencies in England and Wales (Q)	1 Aug. 1975
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	13 June 1975
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Machine tools: sales and orders (M)	5 Sept. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
production (M)	5 Sept. 1975
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	29 Aug. 1975
estimated figures (M)	This week
motor trade turnover (Q)	22 Aug. 1975
Office development permits (Q)	9 May 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
UK overseas trade in 1973	16 May 1974
unit value and volume index numbers (M)	22 Aug. 1975
value: analysis of trends (Q)	29 Aug. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Paper and board production (M)	30 Jan. 1975
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	This week
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	12 Sept. 1975
provisional figures (M)	This week
sales, N. Ireland (M)	5 Sept. 1975
stocks (M)	29 Aug. 1975
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	22 Aug. 1975
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	5 Sept. 1975
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	5 Sept. 1975
retail (M)	29 Aug. 1975
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	25 Apr. 1975
carpet sales (M)	22 Aug. 1975
cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	22 Aug. 1975
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	This week
wholesale houses' sales (M)	22 Aug. 1975
wool exports (Q)	20 June 1975
wool output (M)	This week
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	29 Aug. 1975
overseas travel and tourism (A)	7 Mar. 1975
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	This week

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	4 Apr. 1975
Customs notices of interest to exporters	12 Sept. 1975
ECGD local offices	12 Sept. 1975
Guide to Departments	11 July 1975
Official Receivers' offices	21 Mar. 1975
Programme of trade promotions	15 Aug. 1975
Release dates of economic statistics	29 Aug. 1975

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Vehicles and plant including 445 saloons, limousines, estate cars, minibuses and light vans, 275 Land Rovers, motor cycles, 250 commercial vehicles including heavy duty trucks and tractors by AEC, Leyland and Scammell, 80 trailers (10 cwt-20 tons), refuellers, fire tenders, Leyland breakdown truck with hydraulic telescopic recovery crane, tractors by Bray, David Brown, Ferguson and Gainsborough, mobile cranes, fork lift trucks, scrapers, GMC amphibious DUKWs, six Bedford RL vans fitted diesel generators, mobile welding plants. The majority of the vehicles are sold as single lots.

2 October 1975 Household furniture and other stores

Location: RAF Thorney Island, Emsworth, Hants PO10 8DG

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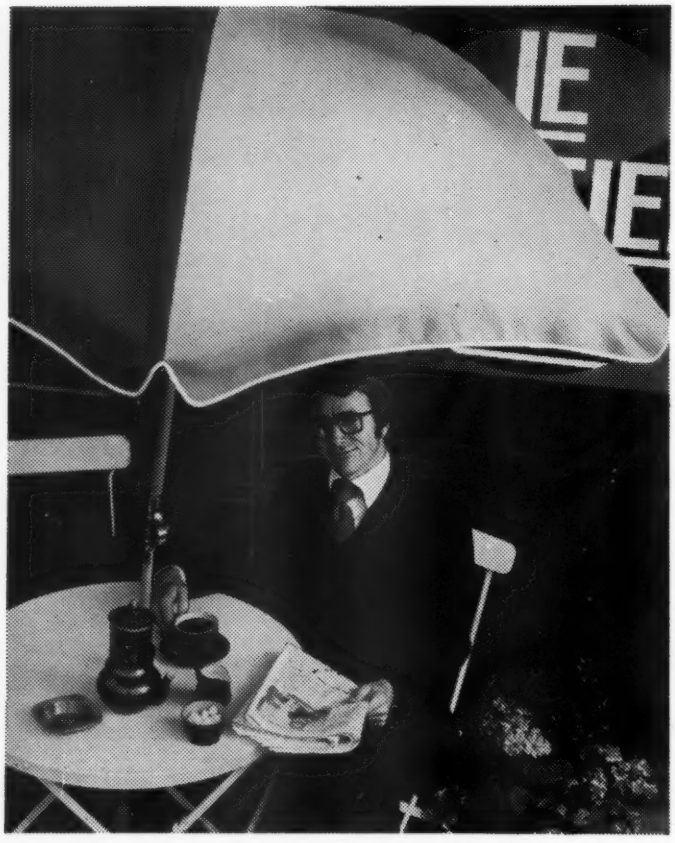


If you have our Comprehensive policy we can cover all your sales and give you two vitally important benefits for your export success.

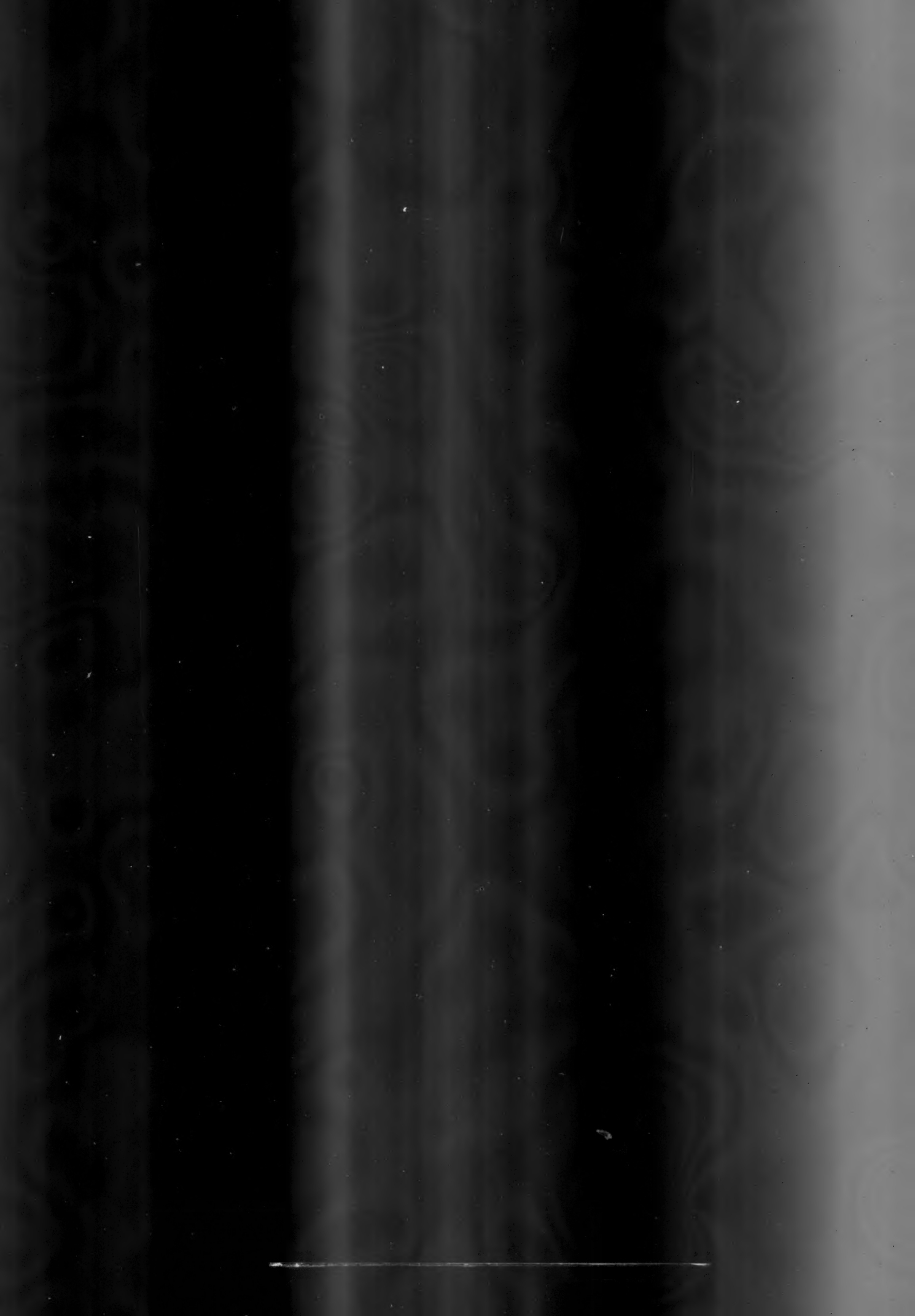
First, we pay 90 per cent of your losses if your buyer goes broke or fails to pay for goods accepted– 95 per cent for losses caused by acts of government, such as exchange restrictions, new import regulations or war.

Second, we give improved access to export finance. Under our Guarantee banks provide finance at preferential rates of interest. The rate is ½ per cent above base rate for credit up to two years and at a fixed rate for two to five years, with a minimum of 7 per cent.

For more details get in touch now with ECGD.

ECGD

helps companies expand through exporting.
Make full use of ECGD services for exporters.

ACTION NOW: Contact the Information Officer, Export Credits Guarantee Department, quoting reference TIQ at Glasgow, Belfast, Leeds, Manchester, Birmingham, Cambridge, Bristol, London West End, Croydon or Tottenham Regional Offices or Miss Butler, Information Section TIQ, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel: 01-606 6699 ext 258).

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